

A Celebration of the life of

# Julie Simons

July 27, 1941 - October 19, 2025



*Friday October 24, 2025 at 4 pm*



**St. Mark's City Heights  
Episcopal Church**

MANOS DE DIOS - WE ARE GOD'S HANDS

**Opening Hymn**

*The Servant Song (Renew 148)*

*Please stand if you are able.*

Brother, let me be your servant.  
Let me be as Christ to you.  
Pray that I might have the grace  
To let you be my servant, too.

We are pilgrims on a journey.  
We are brothers on the road.  
We are here to help each other  
Walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ-light for you  
In the night time of your fear.  
I will hold my hand out to you;  
Speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping.  
When you laugh, I'll laugh with you.  
I will share your joy and sorrow  
Till we've seen this journey through.

When we sing to God in heaven,  
We shall find such harmony  
Born of all we've known together  
Of Christ's love and agony.

Sister, let me be your servant.  
Let me be as Christ to you.  
Pray that I might have the grace  
To let you be my servant, too.

**Opening Anthem**

*Please remain standing if you are able.*

Presider 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.

Presider        The Lord be with you  
**People**        **And also with you.**  
Presider        Let us pray.

*Silence may be kept.*

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you this day our sister Julie. We thank you for giving her to us, her family and friends, to know and to love as a companion on our earthly pilgrimage. In your boundless compassion, console us who mourn. Give us faith to see in death the gate of eternal life, so that in quiet confidence we may continue our course on earth, until, by your call, we are reunited with those who have gone before; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

Minister        Most merciful God, whose wisdom is beyond our understanding: Deal graciously with our grief. Surround us with your love, that we may not be overwhelmed by our loss, but have confidence in your goodness, and strength to meet the days to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

***The people sit.***

## *The Liturgy of the Word*

*A reading from the Wisdom of Solomon.*

Wisdom 3:1-5,9

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 23*

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

El Señor es mi pastor; nada me faltará.

He makes me lie down in green pastures;  
he leads me beside still waters; he restores  
my soul.

En verdes pastos me hace yacer; me conduce  
hacia aguas tranquilas.

He leads me in right paths for his name's  
sake.

Aviva mi alma y me guía por sendas seguras  
por amor de su Nombre.

Even though I walk through the darkest valley,  
I fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod  
and your staff, they comfort me.

Aunque ande en valle de sombra de muerte,  
no temeré mal alguno; porque tú estás  
conmigo; tu vara y tu cayado me infunden  
aliento.

You prepare a table before me in the  
presence of my enemies; you anoint my head  
with oil; my cup overflows.

Aderezarás mesa delante de mi en presencia  
de mis angustiadores; unges mi cabeza con  
óleo; mi copa está rebosando.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all  
the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the  
house of the Lord my whole life long.

Ciertamente el bien y la misericordia me  
seguirán todos los días de mi vida, y en la  
casa del Señor moraré por largos días.

*A reading from the first letter of John*

1 John 3:1-2

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God, and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is.

The Word of the Lord.

**People**

**Thanks be to God.**

**The Gospel Hymn** Change My Heart, O God (Renew 143) *Please stand if you are able.*

**Change my heart, O God, make it ever true:  
Change my heart, O God, may I be like You.**

**You are the Potter, I am the clay;  
Mold me and make me, this is what I pray.**

**Change my heart, O God, make it ever true;  
Change my heart, O God, may I be like You.**

**The Gospel** **John 14:1-3** *Please remain standing if you are able.*

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.  
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Deacon “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

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

**Homily** **The Rev. Cyndi Jones**

**The Nicene Creed** *Please stand if you are able.*

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

People **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from  
Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were  
made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:**

**by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father. With the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, He has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

### ***Prayers of the People***

***Please remain standing if you are able.***

Deacon For our sister Julie, let us pray to our Lord Jesus Christ who said, "I am Resurrection and I am Life."

Intercessor Lord, you consoled Martha and Mary in their distress; draw near to us who mourn for Julie, 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.***

She showed us how to help build your kingdom; grant that we will continue her work. ***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. **Hear us, Lord.**

*Silence may be kept.*

Presider Father of all, we pray to you for Julie, 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.**

### **The Peace**

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

### **Announcements**

**The people sit.**

### **The Offering of Gifts**

*The Table is prepared*

**The Doxology** *Hymnal 380 Vs 3 Tune Old Hundredth* **Please stand if you are able.**

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow: Praise Him all crea - tures  
here be - low; Praise Him a - bove ye heav - 'nly  
host; Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost! A - men

## **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

*Eucharistic Prayer D*

The people remain standing.

Presider The Lord be with you.  
**People And also with you.**  
Presider Lift up your hearts.  
**People We lift them to the Lord.**  
Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**People It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*The Presider continues*

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing,

**Sanctus**      *Argentine Santo, Santo, Santo*      WLP 785

San - to, san - to, san - to, mi cor - a - zon te a - do - ra! Mi  
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dores you! My

cor - a - zon te sa - be de - cir: san - to e - res Se - ñor.  
heart is glad to say the words: you are ho - ly, Lord.

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

**People**        **We praise you, we bless you,  
we give thanks to you,  
and we pray to you, Lord our God.**

**Presider**    We pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace. Remember all who have died in the peace of Christ, and those whose faith is known to you alone; bring them into the place of eternal joy and light.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray, in the language of our own heart.

Padre nuestro que estás en el cielo, santificado sea tu Nombre, venga tu reino, hágase tu voluntad, en la tierra como en el cielo. Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día. Perdona nuestras ofensas, como también nosotros perdonamos a los que nos ofenden.  
No nos dejes caer en tentación y líbranos del mal. Porque tuyo es el reino, tuyo es el poder, y tuya es la gloria, ahora y por siempre. Amén.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

### ***The Breaking of the Bread***

Presider We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.  
People **We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.**

### ***The Invitation***

Presider This is the table, not of the Church, but of the Lord. It is made ready for those who love him, and for those who want to love him more. So, come, those who have much faith and those who have little, those who have been here often and those who have not been here long, those who have tried to follow and those who have failed. Come, not because the Church invites us; it is Christ, and he invites us to meet him here.

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

### ***The Prayer of Spiritual Communion For Those On Zoom***

Deacon We know that some of us are joining this afternoon on zoom, and although they can not physically receive the holy sacraments, they can receive in their hearts.

People **In union, Blessed Jesus, with the faithful gathered at every altar of Your Church where Your blessed body and blood are offered, I long to offer you praise and thanksgiving. I believe that You are truly present in the Holy Sacrament. And since I cannot at this time receive communion, I pray You to come into my heart, my soul, and my mind. I unite myself to You, and embrace You with all the affections of my soul. Let nothing separate me from You; let me serve You in this life until, by Your grace, I join You in Your reign of unending peace. Amen.**

**ALL ARE WELCOME AND INVITED TO RECEIVE COMMUNION.** We will be offering communion in both kinds: bread & wine. If you would like to receive the bread and wine please hold out both hands. You can either drink from the chalice (in which case, after receiving the bread, go to the chalice bearer to your left) or have the bread intincted (dipped) into the wine and given to you (in which case go to the chalice bearer to your right after receiving the bread.) If you would like to receive the bread only please hold out one hand.

If you would prefer not to receive the body and bread but receive a blessing, please cross your hands over your chest.

If you would like to receive gluten free bread, please go to the communion station at the back of the church.

### **Communion Hymn**

### **Eat This Bread (Renew 228)**

*Refrain*

**Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup,  
Come To Me And Never Be Hungry.  
Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup,  
Trust In Me And You Will Not Thirst.**

**I Am The Bread Of Life,  
The True Bread Sent From The Father.**

*Refrain*

**Your Ancestors Ate Manna In The Desert,  
But This Is The Bread Come Down From Heaven.**

*Refrain*

**Eat My Flesh And Drink My Blood,  
And I Will Raise You Up On The Last Day.**

*Refrain*

### **Post Communion Prayer**

*Please stand if you are able.*

**People** Almighty God, we thank you that in your great love you have fed us with the spiritual food and drink of the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ, and have given us a foretaste of your heavenly banquet. Grant that this Sacrament may be to us a comfort in affliction, and a pledge of our inheritance in that kingdom where there is no death, neither sorrow nor crying, but the fullness of joy with all your saints; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

### **Remembrances**

*The people sit.*

## **The Commendation**

***Please stand if you are able.***

*The presider and other ministers take their places around the photographs of Julie.*

Minister Give rest, O Christ, to your servant Julie with your saints, where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.

Presider 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.

Minister Give rest, O Christ, to your servant Julie with your saints, where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.

Presider Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Julie. 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.***

## **Recessional Hymn**

**Soon and Very Soon (Renew 276)**

**Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King,  
Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King,  
Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King,  
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, we are goin' to see the King!**

**No more dyin' there we are goin' to see the King,  
No more dyin' there we are goin' to see the King,  
No more dyin' there we are goin' to see the King,  
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, we are goin' to see the King!**

**Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King,  
Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King,  
Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King,  
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, we're are goin' to see the King!**

**Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah.**

## **The Dismissal**

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

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