

**Celebration of the Life
of
Sally Partridge Berman**

May 19, 1944 - April 15, 2026



Saturday, July 18, 2026

1:00 PM

Presider

The Reverend Patricia Catalano

Musician

David Lang

PRELUDE MUSIC

As the procession enters the Nave, all, as able, please stand.

I am Resurrection and I am Life, says the Holy One.
Whoever has faith in me shall have life, even though they die.
And those who have life,
and have committed themselves 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, my Redeemer will raise me up;
and in my body I shall see God.
I myself shall see, and my eyes behold the one
who is my friend and not a stranger.

For we do not have life in ourselves,
and we do not become our own god when we die.
For if we have life, we are alive in God,
and if we die, we die in God.
So, then, whether we live or die,
we are God's possession.

Happy from now on
are those who die in the Holy One!
So it is, says the Spirit,
for they rest from their labors.

OPENING HYMN I'll Fly Away

Albert E. Brumley



1. Some glad mor ning when this life is o'er, I'll fly a - way.
2. When the sha - dows of this life have grown, I'll fly a - way.
3. Just a few more wea - ry days and then, I'll fly a - way.



To a home on God's ce - les - tial shore, I'll fly a - way.
Like a bird, from pris - on bars has flown, I'll fly a - way.
To a land where joys shall nev - er end, I'll fly a - way.



I'll fly a - way, oh Glor - y, I'll fly a - way.



When I die hal - le - lu - jah by and by, I'll fly a - way.

THE COLLECT

God be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God of grace and glory, we remember this day our sister Sally. 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. Amen

The people sit.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE FIRST READING A Celtic Song, from *Carmina Gadelica* as collected by
Alexander Charmichael

Upon death's crossing we are welcomed back to the place of our beginnings:
Be each saint in heaven,
Each sainted woman in heaven,
Each angel in heaven,
Stretching their arms for you,
Smoothing the way for you,
When you go thither
Over the river hard to see,
Oh when you go thither home
Over the river hard to see.

THE SECOND READING A Celtic prayer from the western islands of Scotland,
from William Sharp, *The Dominion of Dreams: Under the Dark Star*

Many people have committed this prayer to memory as a blessing for peace. It invokes the
graces of earth, air, fire, and water, and weaves them into a devotion to Christ:

Deep peace of the running wave to you,
Deep peace of the flowing air to you,
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you,
Deep peace of the shining stars to you,
Deep peace of the Son of Peace to you.

All, as able, please stand.

HYMN Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling

Will L. Thompson

1. Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing,
 2. Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing,
 3. Time is now fleet - ing, the mo - ments are pass - ing,
 4. Oh! For the won - der - ful love He has prom - ised,

1. Call - ing for you and for me; — See, on the por - tals He's
 2. Plead - ing for you and for me? — Why should we lin - ger and
 3. Pass - ing for you and for me; — Shad - ows are gath - er - ing,
 4. Prom - ised for you and for me; — Though we have sinned, He has

1. wait - ing and watch - ing, Watch - ing for you and for me. —
 2. heed not His mer - cies, Mer - cies for you and for me? —
 3. death beds are com - ing, Com - ing for you and for me. —
 4. mer - cy and par - don, Par - don for you and for me. —

Come home, Come home, come home, come home,

Ye who are wea-ry, come home! Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,

Je - sus is call - ing, Call - ing, O sin - ner, come home!

THE GOSPEL John 14:1-3

The Gospel of Jesus according to John.
Glory to you.

‘Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In God’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.’

The Gospel of Jesus.
Praise to you.

The people sit.

REFLECTION

Kristin Bedford

THE HOMILY

The Reverend Patricia Catalano

All are invited to sing.

Love me tender, love me sweet,
Never let me go.
You have made my life complete,
And I love you so.

Love me tender, love me long,
Take me to your heart.
For it's there that I belong,
And we'll never part. Chorus

Chorus:
Love me tender, love me true,
All my dreams fulfill.
For, my darling, I love you,
And I always will.

Love me tender, love me dear,
Tell me you are mine.
I'll be yours through all the years,
'Til the end of time. Chorus

The people stand.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

At the rising sun and at its going down;
We remember her.

At the blowing of the wind and in the chill of winter;
We remember her.

At the opening of the buds and in the rebirth of spring;
We remember her.

At the blueness of the skies and in the warmth of summer;
We remember her.

At the rustling of the leaves and in the beauty of the autumn;
We remember her.

At the beginning of the year and when it ends;
We remember her.

As long as we live, she too will live,
For Sally is now a part of us, as we remember her.

When we are weary and in need of strength;
We remember her.

When we are lost and sick at heart;
We remember her.

When we have decisions that are difficult to make;
We remember her.

When we have joy we crave to share;
We remember her.

When we have achievements that are based on hers;
We remember her.

For as long as we live, she too will live
For Sally is now a part of us, as we remember her.

The presider continues.

Almighty God, Mother of all, we pray to you for Sally and for Seth, and for all those whom we love but see no longer. Grant to them eternal rest. Let light perpetual shine upon them. May their soul, and the souls of all the departed, rest in peace.
Amen.

THE PEACE

The peace of God be with you.
And also with you.

All may offer one another a sign of peace.

GREETING

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

MUSIC Can't Help Falling In Love

Elvis

All are invited to sing.

**Wise men say "Only fools rush in"
But I can't help falling in love with you.**

**Take my hand, take my whole life, too,
For I can't help falling in love with you.**

**Shall I stay? Would it be a sin?
If I can't help falling in love with you?**

**Like a river flows surely to the sea,
Darling, so it goes some things are
meant to be.**

**Like a river flows surely to the sea,
Darling, so it goes some things are
meant to be.**

**Take my hand, take my whole life, too,
For I can't help falling in love with you.
For I can't help falling in love with you.**

The people stand.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

**God be with you.
And also with you.**

**Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to God.**

**Let us give thanks to God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

**Holy, holy, holy, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of God.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world.

Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE PRAYER OF LIFE AND LOVE

And now, let us all pray together,

Spirit of Life and Love, here and everywhere,
May we be aware of your presence in our lives.
May our world be blessed. May our daily needs be met,
And may our shortcomings be forgiven,
As we forgive those of others.
Give us the strength to resist wrong-doing,
The inspiration and guidance to do right,
And the wisdom to know the difference.
We are your hands in the world; help us to grow.
May we have compassion for all living beings,
And receive whatever life brings with courage and trust. **Amen.**

FRACTION ANTHEM

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
Therefore let us keep the feast. **Alleluia.**

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

We recognize this as God's table set before us and this bread and wine as God's food for all.
Therefore, whoever we are, from wherever we have come, and whatever we believe or do not believe, all are welcome and invited to receive. Amen!

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

"How Great Thou Art," by Elvis, original recording from 1967 album "How Great Thou Art"

"Take My Hand, Precious Lord" by Mahalia Jackson, original recording from 1956

The people stand.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

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 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. Amen.

THE COMMENDATION

Give rest, O Christ, to your servants Sally and Seth with your saints, where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.

You only are immortal, the creator and maker of humankind; 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 servants Sally and Seth with your saints, where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servants Sally and Seth. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, sheep of your own fold, lambs of your own flock, sinners of your own redeeming. Receive them into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

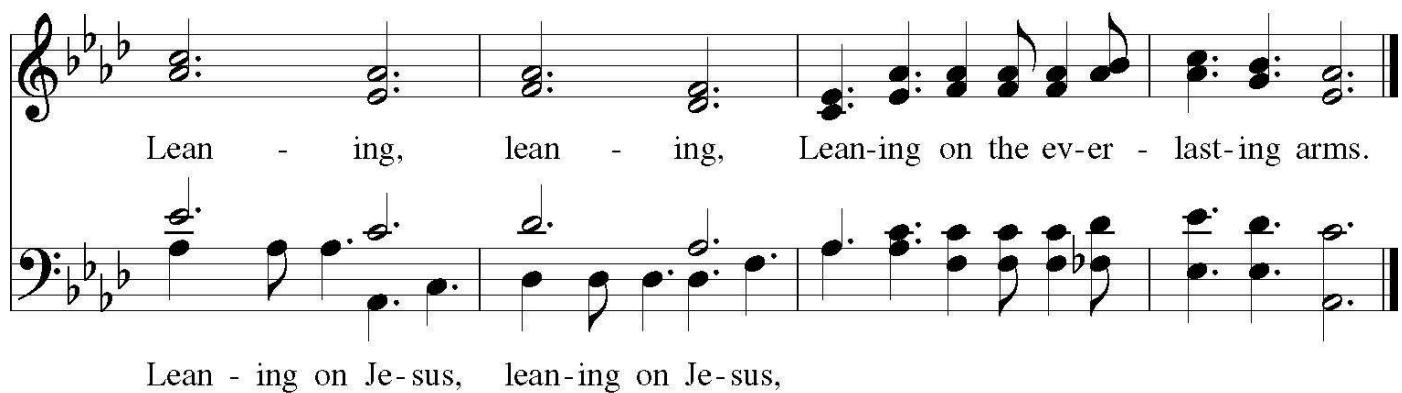
Words by Elisha A. Hoffman
Music by Anthony J. Showalter

1. What a fel - low - ship, what a joy di - vine,
2. O how sweet to walk in this pil - grim way,
3. What have I to dread, what have I to fear,

1. Lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms; What a bless - ed - ness,
2. Lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms; O how bright the path
3. Lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms; I have bless - ed peace

1. what a peace is mine, Lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
2. grows from day to day, Lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
3. with my Lord so near, Lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

Lean - ing, lean - ing, safe and se - cure from all a - larms;
Lean - ing on Je - sus, lean - ing on Je - sus,



THE BLESSING

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.

THE DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

All are invited to Baxter Hall immediately following the service for a catered reception.

Liturgical Leaders & Worship Participants

Presider & Preacher	The Reverend Patricia Catalano
Guest Organist	David Lang
Singer	Rob Hall
Readers	Barbara Black
	Rayanne Gonzales
Altar guild	Nancy Lucas, Elizabeth Arthur
Verger/Crucifer	Janet Lipscomb

Sally Partridge Berman 1944-2026

Seth Partridge Berman 1980-2023

Born in 1946, Sally grew up in a traditional 1950s household in Maplewood, New Jersey. She felt a quiet calling to step out of this safety net and explore the world. In high school, ahead of her time, she spent a semester studying in Spain and became fluent in Spanish. Her intellectual nature was encouraged through this adventure and led to a lifetime of learning about history, language and faith.

With a love of the outdoors, she treasured the sound of moving waters, her garden and long hikes amidst the green. From an early age she played the cello and deeply valued music; from Elvis to gospel to the spirited hymns of the Methodist church she grew up in.

Sally lived most of her life on Capitol Hill in a civil war-era home valuing simplicity, her good women friends, attending St Mark's Church and cherishing moments of tranquility. Mother to Seth and Kristin, she passed on her sense of humor, love of nature, intellectual curiosity and helping others in need.

Both Sally and Seth are deeply missed. May they be together in peace and love.

