

# Funeral Service for Ellen Nadene Sieders



*Wednesday, June 2, 2021*

*11:00am*

*Peace in Christ*

*Elizabeth, Colorado*

## **GATHERING**

*The Holy Spirit, the comforter, gathers us in worship.*

## **INTRODUCTION**

Welcome in the name of Jesus, the Savior of the world.

We are gathered to worship,  
to proclaim Christ crucified and risen,  
to remember before God our sister Ellen,  
to give thanks for her life,  
to commend her to our merciful redeemer,  
and to comfort one another in our grief.

## **THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

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.

Eternal God, maker of heaven and earth, who formed us from the dust of the earth, who by your breath gave us life, we glorify you. **We glorify you.**

Jesus Christ, the resurrection and the life, who suffered death for all humanity, who rose from the grave to open the way to eternal life, we praise you. **We praise you.**

Holy Spirit, author and giver of life, the comforter of all who sorrow, our sure confidence and everlasting hope, we worship you. **We worship you.**

To you, O blessed Trinity, be glory and honor, forever and ever. **Amen.**

## **Hymn - *The King of Love My Shepherd Is***

1 The King of love my shepherd is,  
whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am his and he is mine forever.

2 Where streams of living water flow,  
my ransomed soul he leadeth  
and, where the verdant pastures grow,  
with food celestial feedeth.

3 Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,  
but yet in love he sought me,  
and on his shoulder gently laid,  
and home, rejoicing, brought me.

4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill,  
with thee, dear Lord, beside me,  
thy rod and staff my comfort still;  
thy cross before to guide me.

5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;  
thine unction grace bestoweth;  
and, oh, what transport of delight  
from thy pure chalice floweth!

6 And so, through all the length of days,  
thy goodness faileth never.  
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise  
within thy house forever.

## **GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you today our sister Ellen. We thank you for giving her to us to know and to love as a companion in our pilgrimage on earth. In your boundless compassion, console us who mourn. Give us faith to see that death has been swallowed up in the victory of our Lord Jesus Christ, so that we may live in confidence and hope until, by your call, we are gathered to our heavenly home in the company of all your saints; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## **POEM - *Lessons My Mother Taught Me* - Patty Brink**

### **WORD**

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

### **ISAIAH 25:6-9**

A reading from Isaiah.

<sup>6</sup>On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples  
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,  
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

<sup>7</sup>And he will destroy on this mountain  
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,  
the sheet that is spread over all nations;

<sup>8</sup>he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces,  
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,  
for the LORD has spoken.

<sup>9</sup>It will be said on that day,

Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.  
This is the LORD for whom we have waited;  
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 121

<sup>1</sup>**I lift up my eyes to the hills — from where will my help come?**

<sup>2</sup>**My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.**

<sup>3</sup>**He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.**

<sup>4</sup>**He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.**

<sup>5</sup>**The LORD is your keeper;**

**the LORD is your shade at your right hand.**

<sup>6</sup>**The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.**

<sup>7</sup>**The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.**

<sup>8</sup>**The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in  
from this time on and forevermore.**

## ROMANS 5:1-11

A reading from Romans. <sup>1</sup>Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup>through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. <sup>3</sup>And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, <sup>4</sup>and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup>and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

<sup>6</sup>For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.

<sup>7</sup>Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person — though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. <sup>8</sup>But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. <sup>9</sup>Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. <sup>10</sup>For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. <sup>11</sup>But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## **JOHN 14:1-6:**

The holy gospel according to John the 14<sup>th</sup> chapter. Glory to you, **O Lord**.  
A reading from John. <sup>1</sup>Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. <sup>2</sup>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? <sup>3</sup>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. <sup>4</sup>And you know the way to the place where I am going." <sup>5</sup>Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" <sup>6</sup>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 our Lord. Praise to you, **O Christ**.

## **SERMON**

### **HYMN OF THE DAY** *How Great Thou Art*

1 O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder  
consider all the works thy hand hath made,  
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,  
thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed;

#### Refrain

Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,  
how great thou art! How great thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,  
how great thou art! How great thou art!

2 When through the woods and forest glades I wander,  
I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;  
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur  
and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze; Refrain

3 But when I think that God, his Son not sparing,  
sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,  
that on the cross my burden gladly bearing  
he bled and died to take away my sin; Refrain

4 When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation,  
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!  
Then I shall bow in humble adoration  
and there proclaim, "My God, how great thou art!" Refrain

### **APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,**

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**

**born of the virgin Mary,**

**suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

**was crucified, died, and was buried;**

**he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;**

**he ascended into heaven,**

**he is seated at the right hand of the Father,**

**and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the holy catholic church,**

**the communion of saints,**

**the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the body,**

**and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Let us pray.

Almighty God, in holy baptism you have knit your chosen people together into one communion of saints in the body of Christ.

Give to your whole church in heaven and on earth your light and your peace.  
God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection  
may die to sin and rise to share the new life in Christ.  
God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give courage and faith to all who mourn,  
and a sure and certain hope in your loving care,  
that, casting all their sorrow on you,  
they may have strength for the days ahead.  
God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith,  
that, where this world groans in grief and pain,  
your Holy Spirit may lead us to bear witness to your light and life.  
God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Help us, 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.  
God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of all grace, we give you thanks because by his death our Savior Jesus  
Christ destroyed the power of death and by his resurrection he opened the  
kingdom of heaven to all believers. Make us certain that because he lives we  
shall live also, and that neither death nor life, nor things present nor things to  
come, will be able to separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and  
forever. **Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.



**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.**

### **SENDING**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

### **COMMENDATION**

Let us commend Ellen to the mercy of God, our maker and redeemer.

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Ellen Nadene Sieders.

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.**

Almighty God  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit  
Bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Let us go forth in peace,  
**in the name of Christ. Amen.**

## **ON EAGLES WINGS** *On Eagle's Wings*

1 You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,  
who abide in this shadow for life,  
say to the Lord: "My refuge,  
my rock in whom I trust!"

### Refrain

And he will raise you up on eagle's wings,  
bear you on the breath of dawn,  
make you to shine like the sun,  
and hold you in the palm of his hand.

2 The snare of the fowler will never capture you,  
and famine will bring you no fear;  
under God's wings your refuge,  
with faithfulness your shield. Refrain

3 You need not fear the terror of the night,  
nor the arrow that flies by day;  
though thousands fall about you,  
near you it shall not come. Refrain

4 For to the angels God's given a command  
to guard you in all of your ways;  
upon their hands they will bear you up,  
lest you dash your foot against a stone.

### Final refrain

And he will raise you up on eagle's wings,  
bear you on the breath of dawn,  
make you to shine like the sun,  
and hold you in the palm of his hand;  
and hold you, hold you in the palm of his hand.

*The burial will take place at a later date.*

*You are invited to follow the family out to see Ellen off and then join them for lunch on the yard in back of the building.*

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### **Ellen Nadene Sieders**

Ellen Sieders, 87, of Elizabeth, Colorado, passed away on May 28, 2021 after a long battle with Parkinsons.

Ellen was a loving, devoted daughter, wife, mother, grandmother, aunt, and friend who will always be remembered as a genuinely wonderful person.

Ellen Nadene Tracy was born at home on June 6, 1933 on her family's ranch in Kansas. Although the ranch was in Kansas, the address was in Nebraska, and the birth certificate was filed in Colorado.

Ellen was the oldest child of Harvey and Evaleen Tracy. She rode a horse to a one room school house for her elementary years. In order to attend high school she boarded in town and went home on weekends. She graduated in 1951 from Haigler High School in Haigler, Nebraska.

Ellen's favorite book as a child was "Cherry Ames: Army Nurse", which fostered her childhood ambition to be a nurse. She attended Presbyterian Hospital School of Nursing in Denver, Colorado. It was here that she met her future husband, Fred Sieders, at a square dance for soldiers stationed at Fitzsimmons Army Hospital. Ellen graduated from nursing school in December, 1954. She and Fred were married on January 29, 1955 in Ellen's hometown. Ellen and Fred recently celebrated their 66<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

Ellen and Fred raised 3 children: Steven, Thomas, and Patricia. Ellen was a loving, devoted mother who had boundless energy and patience as she guided them to be happy, successful adults. After the tragic death of her son Tom, she modeled the value of faith and the will to persevere.

Ellen and Fred lived in Michigan for almost 40 years. Most of those years were on a farm in Almont where relatives, friends, and neighbors remember Ellen for her kindness and generosity. She was hostess to many picnics and reunions on the farm where so many fond memories were made.

Ellen worked as a registered nurse in Michigan for 20 years, mostly at Romeo Community Hospital. She retired from the hospital and became a Paraprofessional in the Health Occupations Program at Lapeer County Vocational Technical School where she passed her love of nursing to students for 11 years. Ellen and Fred moved back to Colorado, the place where they met, in 1994.

Ellen was an important part in the lives of her four grandchildren who were fortunate to spend countless hours with her and who flourished under her nurturing and love.

Ellen was active in her Lutheran Church, both in Michigan and later in Colorado, where she helped found Peace in Christ Church. Ellen started the Ruth Circle Bible Study. She served tirelessly as their Historian and for many years, while spearheading and contributing to many causes, fundraisers, and events. Ellen was the heart of the church, quick with a pen to send a card or a letter to a member in need, and always welcoming new families into their fold.

Ellen enjoyed sewing and embroidering and quilting. She also enjoyed gardening and canning her own fruits and vegetables. She had quite a green thumb and was known for her heirloom cactus and for her flowers, especially her many varieties of beautiful irises. She loved taking photos and it gave her great joy to chronicle the lives of everyone in carefully detailed photo albums. Ellen was active in her Square Dance Club for many years. She enjoyed collecting nappy plates and had a collection of more than 250 plates. Ellen loved the laughter that came with a good game of cards. She was famous for her chocolate chip cookies. Ellen had the most generous heart and would do anything for anyone. She will be sorely missed by everyone who knew her.

Ellen is survived by her husband Fred Sieders; son Steven Sieders and his wife Lisa; daughter Patricia Brink and her husband Jeff; four grandchildren, Thomas Brink, Ryan Brink, Elizabeth Brink, and Jenna Brink; sister Fern Forsythe; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Harvey and Evaleen Tracy; her brother Rex Tracy; and her beloved son Thomas Lee Sieders.