

**A CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF
CATHERINE V. CITRANO
JANUARY 28, 1931 – DECEMBER 18, 2024**



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2024 AT 2 PM

**THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
36 GOULD STREET, VERONA, NJ
HOLYSPIRITVERONA.ORG**

Sunday Worship Services: 8:00 am & 10 am, in-person & via Zoom; 10am Service is available via Facebook Live.

Please visit **holyspiritverona.org** for further information about worship, fellowship and outreach opportunities.

Hospitality

If you have any questions about where to find things, please ask our usher(s), who will be glad to help. A **restroom** can be found by going through the Fellowship Hall and into the Church Office, and additional ones are in **the lower level**.

PRELUDE

Please stand, as able while the following is prayed.

OPENING ANTHEM

Book of Common Prayer, p.491

Celebrant I am Resurrection and I am Life, says the Lord.
Whoever has faith in me shall have life,
even though s/he die.
And everyone who has life,
and has committed her/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 her/himself,
and none becomes her/his own master when s/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.

Please be seated. When all are in place, the Celebrant may address the congregation, briefly acknowledging the purpose of their gathering, and bidding their prayers for the deceased and the bereaved.

REMEMBRANCE

Christina Sandy (daughter) will offer some words of remembrance.

REFLECTIVE HYMN *Amazing Grace*

The Hymnal 1982, #671

Please join in singing the first three verses.

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.

Please stand, as able.

THE BURIAL COLLECTS

Book of Common Prayer, pp.493-4

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 Catherine, 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.

People **Amen.**

Celebrant Most merciful God, whose wisdom is beyond our understanding: Deal graciously with this family in their grief, especially Virginia, Christina, Sharon, Rosemary and their families. Surround them with your love, that they may not be overwhelmed by their loss, but have confidence in your goodness, and strength to meet the days to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Please be seated for the readings.

THE FIRST LESSON

read by Mr. Steve Penz (nephew)

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah (66:10,12-13).

Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be glad for her,
all you who love her;
rejoice with her in joy, all you who mourn over her—
For thus says the Lord:
I will extend prosperity to her like a river,
and the wealth of the nations like an overflowing stream;
and you shall nurse and be carried on her arm,
and dandled on her knees.
As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you;
you shall be comforted in Jerusalem.

Reader Listen for what the Spirit is saying to the people of God.

People **Thanks be to God.**

We will say the appointed Psalm in unison.

PSALM 23

King James Version

**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.**

THE SECOND LESSON

read by Mr. Patrick Citrano (grandson)

A reading from the book of Book of Ecclesiastes (3:1-8).

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 Listen for what the Spirit is saying to the people of God.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand, as able.

SEQUENCE HYMN *Here I Am Lord*

Wonder, Love and Praise, #812

Verses



1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my
2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my
3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the



peo - ple cry. All who dwell in dark and sin
peo - ple's pain. I have wept for love of them.
poor and lame. I will set a feast for them.



My hand will save. I who made the
They turn a - way. I will break their
My hand will save. Fin - est bread I



stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright. Who will bear my
hearts of stone, Give them hearts for love a - lone. I will speak my
will pro-vide Till their hearts be sat - is - fied. I will give my



light to them? Whom shall I send?
word to them. Whom shall I send?
life to them. Whom shall I send?

Refrain



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you



call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me.



I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

read by Reverend Katherine Rollo, Curate

Curate The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (14:1-6).

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

Jesus said, "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."

Curate The Gospel of the Lord

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

HOMILY

Father Jerry Racioppi, Rector

Please stand, as able.

A LITANY OF REMEMBRANCE

read by Ms. Giulia Licitra (granddaughter)

poem by Rabbi Sylvan Kames and Rabbi Jack Riemer

Leader In the rising of the sun and in its going down,

People **we remember them.**

Leader In the blowing of the wind and in the chill of winter,

People **we remember them.**

Leader In the opening of buds and in the rebirth of spring,

People **we remember them.**

Leader In the blueness of the sky and in the warmth of summer,

People **we remember them.**

Leader In the rustling of leaves and in the beauty of autumn,

People **we remember them.**

Leader In the beginning of the year and when it ends,

People **we remember them.**

Leader When we are weary and in need of strength,

People **we remember them.**

Leader When we are lost and sick at heart,
People **we remember them.**

Leader When we have joys we yearn to share,
People **we remember them.**

Leader So long as we live, they too shall live, for they are now a part of us,
People **we remember them.**

Book of Common Prayer, p.498

Celebrant Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to you our sister Catherine, who was reborn by water and the Spirit in Holy Baptism. Grant that her death may recall to us your victory over death, and be an occasion for us to renew our trust in your Father's love. Give us, we pray, the faith to follow where you have led the way; and where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, to the ages of ages.
People **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Book of Common Prayer, p.360

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

Please greet one another in the name of the Lord, and then be seated.

WELCOME

HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY HYMN *Do You Hear What I Hear?*

solo by Ms. Ema Mitrovic, Music Director

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Book of Common Prayer, Eucharistic Prayer B, pp.367-9

Please stand, as able.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant
People

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

Celebrant

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, God Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who rose victorious from the dead, and comforts us with the blessed hope of everlasting life. For to your faithful people, O Lord, life is changed, not ended; and when our mortal body lies in death, there is prepared for us a dwelling place eternal in the heavens. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS

The Hymnal 1982, S-125

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Celebrant

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

Celebrant

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ 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."

Celebrant

All

Therefore, according to his command, O God,
We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

Celebrant

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever.

All

Amen.

Celebrant

All

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

**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 BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The bread is broken in silence.

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

THE INVITATION

Celebrant 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.

All are invited to receive the Bread and/ or the Wine.

Gluten free wafers are available upon request. At this time, the wine may only be consumed by “sipping” from the Chalice; intinction (“dipping”) is not allowed at this time. If you would prefer a blessing from a clergy person, just cross your arms across your chest to indicate such.

If you are unable to come forward, please tell an usher and communion will be brought to you at your pew.



‘Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.’ -Matthew 11:28-30

Please be seated.

COMMUNION HYMN #1 *Hark the Herald Angels Sing*

The Hymnal 1982, #87

1 Hark! the her-ald an-gels sing glo-ry to the new-born King!
2 Christ, by high-est heaven a-dored; Christ, the ev-er-last-ing Lord;
3 Mild he lays his glo-ry by, born that we no more may die,

Peace on earth and mer-cy mild, God and sin-ners rec-on-ciled!
late in time be-hold him come, off-spring of the Vir-gin's womb.
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec-ond birth.

Joy-ful, all ye na-tions, rise, join the tri-umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail the in-car-nate De-i-ty.
Risen with heal-ing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,

with the an-gel-ic host pro-claim Christ is born in Beth-le-hem!
Pleased as man with us to dwell; Je-sus, our Em-man-u-el!
hail, the Sun of Right-eous-ness! hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!

The musical score consists of four systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system.

Refrain

Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new - born King!

COMMUNION HYMN #2 *O Come All Ye Faithful*

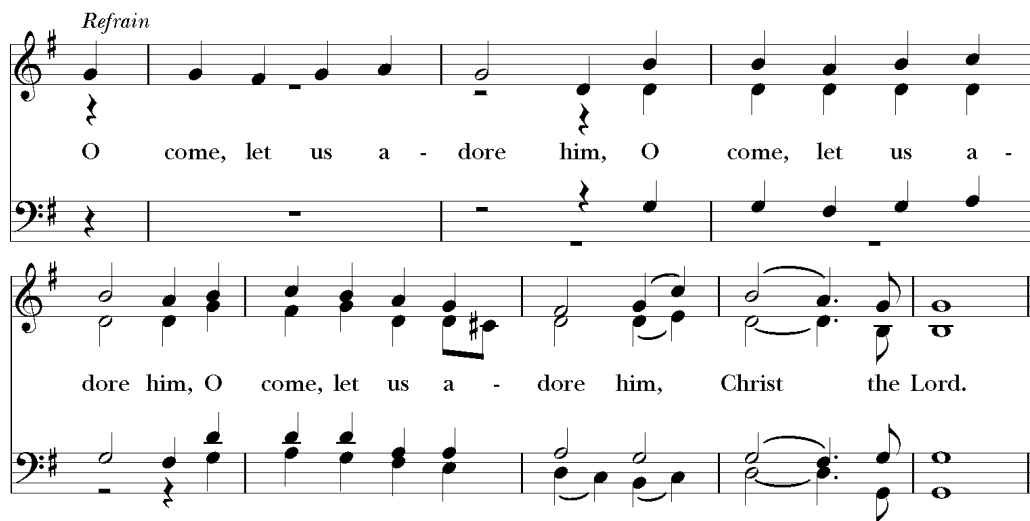
The Hymnal 1982, #83

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O
 2 God from God, Light from Light e - ter - nal,
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
 *4 See how the shep - herds, sum - moned to his cra - dle,
 *5 Child, for us sin - ners poor and in the man - ger,

1 come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
 2 lo! he ab - hors not the Vir - gin's womb;
 3 sing, all ye ci - ti - zens of heaven a - bove;
 4 leav - ing their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;
 5 we would em - brace thee, with love and awe;

1 come, and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;
 2 on - ly - be - got - ten Son of the Fa - ther;
 3 glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est;
 4 we too will thith - er bend our joy - ful foot - steps;
 5 who would not love thee, lov - ing us so dear - ly?

Refrain



O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a -
 dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord.

6 Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
 born this happy morning;
 Jesus, to thee be glory given;
 Word of the Father,
 now in flesh appearing;

Refrain

Please remain seated.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Book of Common Prayer, p.498

Celebrant Let us pray.

All Almighty God, we thank you that in your great love you have fed us with the spiritual food and drink of the Body 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.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Please stand, as able.

THE COMMENDATION

Book of Common Prayer, p.499

The Celebrant and other worship leaders take their places at the urn.

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

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

Curate Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant, Catherine.
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.
All **Amen.**

BLESSING

(by Henri-Frédéric Amiel, Enriching Our Worship 1, p.70)

Celebrant Life is short and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who
travel with us. So be swift to love, make haste to be kind, and go in peace to love and
serve the Lord. And the blessing of God almighty: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
All **Amen.**

RECESSIONAL *For All the Saints*

The Hymnal 1982 #287



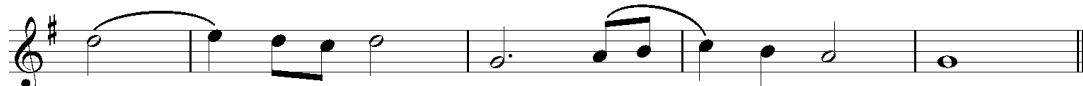
1 For all the saints, who from their la - bors rest, who
2 Thou wast their rock, their for - tress, and their might:___
3 O may thy sol - diers, faith - ful, true, and bold,___
4 O blest com - mun - ion, fel - low - ship di - vine!___



thee___ by faith be - fore the world con - fessed, thy
thou, Lord, their Cap - tain in the well - fought fight;___
fight as the saints who no - bly fought of old, and
We feeb - ly strug - gle, they in glo - ry shine; yet



Name, O___ Je - sus, be for ev - er blessed.
thou, in the dark - ness drear, the one true Light.
win, with___ them, the vic - tor's crown of gold.
all are___ one in thee, for all are thine.



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

POSTLUDE



WORSHIP LEADERS

Celebrant

Assisting Clergy

Worship Assistant

Cantor

Organist

Usher

Virtual Verger

The Rev. Jerry A. Racioppi, *Rector*

The Rev. Katherine Rollo, *Curate*

Ms. Jane Eliasof

Ms. Ema Mitrović, *Music Director*

Mr. Gordon King

Ms. Karen Blasi-Blinder

Mr. Randy Johnson

Thank you to the **Prout Funeral Home** Verona for the care and concern they have shared with the Citrano Family.

continued from the back cover...

She filled its back pantry with the German and Swedish cookies she learned to make from her mother, and all the Italian specialties she learned from her new relatives. She made the best lasagna in New Jersey and forgave her mutt Echo for eating a whole hot pan of it while the family was at Christmas mass. She made the best cheesecake, and warned everyone every time to not open the oven while it was baking or it would crack. She forgot one side dish in the oven at every holiday meal and rejected a mink coat one Christmas, claiming she needed a Cuisinart more.

Catherine was the consummate Verona volunteer: at church, on town committees and in school PTAs. She loved working at the Laning and Forest Avenue libraries, helping children pick books and reading with them whenever she got the chance. She relished being able to take Laning's first Apple computer home for safe-keeping on the weekends, in part because she could play games on it for hours.



Catherine was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Richard, her sister Sharron Penz and brother-in-law Ed Penz, as well as by her beloved grandson Vanya. She leaves her daughters Virginia Citrano, Christina Sandy (Warren), Sharon Licitra (Emanuele) and Rosemary Gabbe (Drew), as well as grandchildren Patrick Citrano, Alex Sandy, Nicholas and Giulia Licitra, and Jenna and Alena Gabbe. They are all grateful for her lessons of humanity, humility and generosity—and her cooking lessons too.

Viewing will be at Prout Funeral Home, 370 Bloomfield Avenue in Verona, on Saturday, December 28, from 12 to 2 p.m., with a service immediately following at the Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit, 36 Gould Street, Verona. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made in Catherine's memory to the Verona Rescue Squad or the Holy Spirit Food Pantry.

CATHERINE V. CITRANO

“People,” Catherine Citrano would say to summon family to a holiday table or begin an important announcement. So that is how we will start: People, Catherine V. Citrano passed away peacefully at home on December 18, 2024, at the age of 93.

Born in Minneapolis, Minnesota, to Margaret and Oskar Saf, Catherine grew up in the city and on her uncles’ farms. Helping there and in her mother’s backyard garden, she developed a knack for growing abundance that was only occasionally thwarted by groundhogs. It was also in Minnesota that she learned to drink coffee black, because the alternative required milking cows.

After graduation from Washburn High School, she briefly attended the University of Minnesota before deciding, on a lark, to drive east with a friend for a job at Bell Telephone in New York City. She was introduced to Richard Citrano at a party and, despite their very different backgrounds—Midwestern Lutheran and East Coast Catholic—they fell in love and soon married.



Catherine moved to her husband’s home town, Verona, in 1958, first to Montclair Avenue, where she had space for a big vegetable garden near an old apple tree. She canned everything she could from those harvests and set up a small sewing room where she made clothes for herself and her growing family. Ever thrifty, she turned dresses that didn’t fit after her pregnancies into clothing for her daughters—and their Barbie dolls. Her daughters loved it all, except for the infamous yellow Easter dresses with the “duck” hats.

In 1968, Catherine and Richard took on the renovation of a large, neglected Victorian on Cliff Street. She welcomed family and friends to its spacious living and dining rooms, took in relatives and exchange students, and somehow managed to turn out dinners for 30 from its under-equipped kitchen.

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