**Celebration of Life**

# March 17, 2025

**Lauretta Carolyn Critchlow**

August 3, 1924 – March 13, 2025

*"Come to me, all you who labor and are heavy laden,*

*and I will give you rest.”*

Matthew 11:2

**Christ Lutheran Church**

**The Reverend Ronald M. Breight**

**Vicar Vincent Mroz**

**400 Barclay Avenue, Forest Hills, PA 15221**

**PRELUDE**

**Amazing Grace**

**How Great Thou Art**

**The Old Rugged Cross**

**HYMN** Hymnal p. 537

**Beautiful Savior**

**Beautiful Savior, King of Creation**

**Son of God and Son of Man!**

**Truly I’d love Thee, truly I’d serve Thee,**

**Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.**

**Fair are the meadows, Fair are the woodlands,**

**Robed in flowers of blooming spring;**

**Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,**

**He makes our sorrowing spirit sing.**

**Fair is the sunshine, Fair is the moonlight,**

**Bright the sparkling stars on high;**

**Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer**

**Than all the angels in the sky.**

**Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations,**

**Son of God and Son of Man!**

**Glory and honor, Praise, adoration**

**Now and forevermore be Thine!**

**READINGS**

John 14: 2-6 Jennifer Romanosky

“A Long Time I Have Lived With You” by Nancy Wood Erica Goad

“When Great Trees Fall” by Maya AngelouLindsey Goad

**EULOGY** Kristopher Proctor

**INVOCATION**

P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

REMEMBRANCE OF BAPTISM

*A white cover (Pall) is placed over the casket symbolizing the holiness and righteousness of Jesus Christ received in baptism.*

P: In Holy Baptism, Lauretta was clothed with the robe of Christ's righteousness that covered all of her sin. St. Paul says: “Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?”

C: We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of 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.

PSALM 23

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 forever.

**SALUTATION AND COLLECT**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

O God of grace and mercy, we give thanks for Your loving-kindness shown to Lauretta and to all Your servants who, having finished their course in faith, now rest from their labors. Grant that we also may be faithful unto death and receive the crown of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**                                  Lamentations 3:22-33

Because of the Lord’s great love we are not consumed, for His compassions never fail.They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.I say to myself, “The Lord is my portion; therefore I will wait for Him.” The Lord is good to those whose hope is in Him, to the one who seeks Him;it is good to wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord.For no one is cast off by the Lord forever.Though he brings grief, He will show compassion, so great is His unfailing love.For He does not willingly bring affliction or grief to the children of men.

*Following the reading...*

L: This is the Word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**NEW TESTAMENT READING** Romans 8:28,31-39

And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to His purpose. What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare His own Son but gave Him up for us all, how will He not also with Him graciously give us all things? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword?

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

*Following the reading...*

L: This is the Word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**HOLY GOSPEL**  John 6:37-40

“All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and whoever comes to Me I will never cast out.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. For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in Him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day.”

*Following the reading...*

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

**THE APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

HYMN

**The Lord’s Prayer** Joel Redfoot

### MESSAGE

**PRAYERS**

P: Let us pray to the Lord, our God and Father, who raised Jesus from the dead. (*following each petition)*

P: Lord in Your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

**NUNC DIMITTIS**

P: “I am the resurrection and the life,” says the Lord. “He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in Me will never die.” John 11:25-26

C: Lord, now You let your servant go in peace;

Your word has been fulfilled.

My own eyes have seen the salvation

Which You have prepared in the sight of every people:

a light to reveal You to the nations

and the glory of Your people, Israel.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

P: “I am the resurrection and the life,” says the Lord. “He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in Me will never die.” John 11:25-26

BENEDICAMUS and BENEDICTION

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with His favor and (†) give you His peace.

C: Amen.

P: Let us go forth in peace,

C: in the name of the Lord. Amen.

HYMN Hymnal p. 727

On Eagles’ Wings

You who dwell in the shadow of His wings,

Who abide in His shadow for life,

Say to the Lord: ‘My refuge,

My God in whom I trust!’

*(Chorus)And He will raise you up on eagles’ wings,*

*Bear you on the breath of dawn,*

*Make you to shine like the sun,*

*And hold you in the palm of His hand.*

The snare of the fowler will never capture you,

and famine will bring you no fear:

Under His wings your refuge,

His faithfulness your shield. *(Chorus)*

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. *(Chorus)*

For to His angels He’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. *(Chorus)*

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A close-up of an old person

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Lauretta Carolyn Critchlow

Lifetime Forest Hills and Wilkinsburg resident Lauretta Carolyn Schirra Critchlow passed away peacefully on Thursday, March 13, 2025, at the age of 100.

Born August 3, 1924, in Wilkinsburg, Lauretta was the eldest child of Edna Link and Ernest Schirra. Her siblings are brother Ernest and sister Sylvia.  After graduating from Wilkinsburg High School and working at a bank during WWII, she married James Kingsley Critchlow in 1948. They were married for 55 years and together had four children. She worked in coordination with her husband in his work as a certified public accountant and part-time at Forest Hills Transfer and Storage for many years.

Lauretta was an active and devoted member of Christ Lutheran Church in Forest Hills, where she taught Sunday School and Vacation Bible School. During WWII she and a group of her friends met together to sew and socialize. They simply called themselves “the club girls” and these friendships lasted over 75 years.

Her children remember her as a kind and devoted mother. Her grandchildren and great-grandchildren hold fond memories of visiting her warm and loving home.

Lauretta is survived by her sister Sylvia Campbell of Verona; her children James Critchlow (Cindy) of Gettysburg, Carolyn Redfoot (Joel) of Wexford, Deborah Goad (Jerry) of Lakewood, CO, and Karen Morrison (Jack) of Milton, DE; 10 grandchildren and their spouses; and 12 great-grandchildren.

Burial in William Penn Cemetery, Churchill.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Christ Lutheran Church of Forest Hills, 400 Barclay Ave., Pittsburgh PA 15221, www.christlutheranfh.org/donate.

PARTICIPANTS

Officiant Vicar Vincent Mroz

Organist Douglas Skalka

Readers: Granddaughters

Jennifer Romanosky

Erica Goad

Lindsey Goad

Eulogy: Kristopher Proctor, Grandson

Soloist: Joel Redfoot, Son-in-Law

Pallbearers: Grandchildren

Jacob Critchlow Erica Goad

Jennifer Romanosky Lindsey Goad

Kristopher Proctor Stephanie Lewis

Megan Redfoot Joseph Morrison

Jessica Goad