

**A Service of Witness to the Resurrection
in Gratitude to God for the Life of**

Patricia Anne Dienst

A Child of God

27 July 1936 — 6 June 2025

11 October 2025 at 11:00 a.m.

The Rev. Dwight Christenbury and the Rev. David Garnett
Trinity Presbyterian Church

Prelude

Greeting

Call to Worship (*responsive*)

Psalm 121

I lift up my eyes to the hills—from where will my help come?

**My help comes from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.**

He will not let your foot be moved;
he who keeps you will not slumber.

He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

The LORD is your keeper;
the LORD is your shade at your right hand.

The sun will not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.

The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.

**The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in
from this time on and forevermore.**

Prayer of Praise

***Hymn 664**

“Morning Has Broken”

BUNESSAN

First Reading: Psalm 23 (*unison*)

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.

Second Reading: Isaiah 65:17–25

Third Reading: John 14:1–6, 25–27

Special Music

SIMPLE GIFTS

Timothy Shepard, piano

Homily

Dwight Christenbury

Reflections on the Life of Pat Dienst

***Affirmation of Faith**

The Apostles’ Creed

TRADITIONAL

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 Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of Thanksgiving and The Lord’s Prayer (*unison*)

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

***Hymn 250**

“In the Bulb There Is a Flower”

PROMISE

***Benediction**

Postlude

* Please stand, in body or spirit.

With special thanks to our organist, Timothy Shepard

Patricia Perkins Dienst, affectionately known as Pat, passed away peacefully on June 6, 2025, at the age of 88, at Margaret Pardee Memorial Hospital in Hendersonville, North Carolina. Born on July 27, 1936, in Lewiston, Maine, Pat lived a life marked by dedication to her family, profession, and community.

Patricia's compassionate nature led her to a career in nursing, where she served as a beacon of care and knowledge. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Columbia University in New York, which laid the foundation for her distinguished career. She began her professional journey as a registered nurse and went on to share her expertise by teaching nursing at Mary Hitchcock Hospital in Hanover, New Hampshire. Her path then took her to Maine Medical Center in Portland, where she not only excelled in her field but also met her beloved husband, Dr. Stanley Gordon Dienst. Pat concluded her nursing career with a pediatric allergist office in Michigan, leaving behind a legacy of kindness and professionalism.

Beyond her professional achievements, Pat was deeply committed to her community. A tireless advocate for mental health, she served on the state advisory board for mental health for the state of North Dakota. She was passionately active in the Peace and Disarmament movements and played a significant role in the churches she attended throughout her life. Her spiritual journey included active participation at the First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham, Michigan, the First Presbyterian Church of Bismarck, North Dakota, and Trinity Presbyterian Church in Hendersonville, North Carolina.

Pat's dedication extended to organizations that enriched her spirit and intellect. She was a proud member of the P.E.O., the American Association of University Women (A.A.U.W.), and the National Alliance for Mental Illness (N.A.M.I.).

Outside of her work, Pat found joy in cooking, sewing, gardening, and traveling. Her warmth could be felt in every meal she lovingly prepared and shared. Her skillful hands not only healed but also crafted beautiful garments and tended to vibrant gardens that reflected her nurturing nature. Her curiosity and adventurous spirit led her to explore new places, leaving imprints on her heart and memories cherished by those who traveled alongside her.

Patricia was preceded in death by her parents, Gerald and Marion Quinby Perkins; her beloved husband of 55 years, Dr. Stanley Dienst; her brother, Kenneth Perkins; and her brother-in-law, Al Beaudin. She is survived by her loving daughter, Krista Swinton and her husband John; her devoted son, Brad Dienst and his friend Cheryl Perryman; cherished grandchildren, Hannah and Sarah Swinton; brothers, Laurence Perkins and his wife Nancy, and Ronald Perkins and his wife Jan; sister, Geraldine Beaudin; sister in law, Lorraine Perkins; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Patricia's life was a testament to compassion, commitment, and service. Her warmth and spirit will be dearly missed by all who knew her.



Patricia Anne Dienst

27 July 1936

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6 June 2025