

## Service of Thanksgiving

for

*Susan R. Hiester*

*August 6, 1941 -- April 23, 2024*



**United Church of Christ  
of Robesonia, Pennsylvania  
Saturday, May 4, 2024  
11:00am**

### PRELUDE

*{Those who are able, please rise for the singing of the hymn}*

**\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN** "Nearer My God to Thee"

*Blue Hymnal #553  
Public Domain*

### \*INVOCATION AND WELCOME

Leader: In the name of God the Father,  
and of God the Son, and of God the Holy Spirit.

**ALL: Amen.**

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**People: And also with you.**

### \*SENTENCES

Leader: Hear the promises of God....

### \*GREETING

Leader: Friends, we gather here in the protective shelter of God's healing love....

*{Please be seated}*

### PRAYER

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray....

### PROCLAMATION OF SCRIPTURE

Old Testament Lesson: [Proverbs 31:10-31](#)

Psalms: *Psalm 23*

Leader: Let us join together in the reading of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm....

**ALL: 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.**

New Testament Lesson: [2 Timothy 4:1-8](#)

Gospel Lesson: [Matthew 25:31-46](#)

**SERMON**

**WORDS OF REMEMBRANCE**

*{Those who are able, please rise}*

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Leader: Let us affirm our faith, with the words of Paul from his letter to the Romans.

**ALL: We believe that there is no condemnation  
for those who are in Christ Jesus,  
and we know that in everything God works for good  
with those who love God,  
who are called according to God's purpose.  
We are sure that neither death, nor life,  
nor angels, nor principalities,  
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. Amen.**

*{Please be seated}*

**ANTHEM**

*"Day by Day"*

*Text by Andrew Skroog, Music by Oscar Ahnfelt*

**PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION**

Leader: Let us pray.....

Merciful God, we thank you for your word....

Leader: Let us join together in the prayers of intercession....

**ALL: O God, whose days are without end  
and whose mercies cannot be counted,  
awaken us to the shortness and uncertainty of human life.  
By your Holy Spirit,  
lead us in faithfulness all our days.  
When we have served you in our generation,  
may we be gathered with those who have gone before,  
having the testimony of a good conscience,  
in the communion of your holy church,  
in the confidence of a certain faith,  
in the comfort of a saving hope,  
in favor with you, our God,  
and at perfect peace with the world;  
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer,  
in whose name we pray . . . .**

**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.**

*{Those who are able, please rise}*

**\*COMMENDATION**

**\*SONG OF SIMEON**

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*RECESSIONAL HYMN**

*"Amazing Grace"*

*♩ Blue Hymnal #343  
Public Domain*

**POSTLUDE**

*{Symbols used in this bulletin: \*= if able please stand; ♩ = Blue Hymnal Page}*

Following the funeral service, a luncheon organized by the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Christian Women's Fellowship Group and others of the United Church of Christ of Robesonia will be held in the Miller Fellowship Hall. Everyone is invited to attend. The lunch is in honor of Sue's many years of organizing the funeral lunches that were held at St. Paul's United Church of Christ / United Church of Christ of Robesonia.

*In Loving Memory of*  
*Susan R. Hiester*  
*August 6, 1941 -- April 23, 2024*

Our sister in faith, Susan “Sue” R. (Spangler) Hiester, 82, of Robesonia, passed away, Tuesday, April 23, 2024 at The Reading Hospital and Medical Center.

Sue was the wife of the late Richard R. Hiester, who passed away December 5, 2021.

Sue, a daughter of the late Lee and Lillian (Fisher) Spangler, was born in Reading. She is survived by her son, Steven R. Hiester, fiancé of Melani Sanders; a sister, Ann, wife of John Peiffer; and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by a son, Capt. Scott R. Hiester, a sister, Marilyn, and a daughter in law, Jody.

Sue was a 1959 graduate of Conrad Weiser High School and retired from the Vanity Fair corporate offices in Wyomissing.

Sue was an active member of the United Church of Christ of Robesonia, where she was a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Women’s Fellowship Group president, organized Christmas and Easter candy making and sales, organized the Christmas Bazaar, was on the Decorating Committee, prepared and served meals, was secretary of Consistory, a member of the choir, and wrote welcome notes to visitors and get well cards to members in the hospital. She was also a member of Friends of the Robesonia Library group.

Service will be held at 11:00am, Saturday, May 4, 2024, in the sanctuary of the United Church of Christ of Robesonia, 301 West Penn Avenue, Robesonia, with the Rev. Dr. Benjamin Motz officiating and the Rev. Mary Etta Mest co-officiating. Visitation with the family will be held at the church building from 10:00am, until the time of service. Lamm & Witman Funeral Home, 243 West Penn Avenue, Wernersville, is handling the arrangements.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Scott R. Hiester Memorial Fund, Conrad Weiser Area High School, 44 Big Spring Road, Robesonia, PA 19551 or to the United Church of Christ of Robesonia Memorial Fund, 301 West Penn Ave., Robesonia, PA 19551.

Online condolences may be made at [www.lammandwitman.com](http://www.lammandwitman.com).

*Sue’s and Richard’s obituaries are also available on the church’s website at:*  
<http://www.sprucc.org/worship/funerals.html>.

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**Prayers of Remembrance**

During the 10:15am worship service on Sunday, May 19, the United Church of Christ of Robesonia will pause in worship for prayer, as a family of faith, for our sister in Christ, Susan Hiester. Friends and family are very much warmly invited, as we seek to be in prayer not only for Sue, but for all those who loved her, and all those whom she loved.

**All Saints Day Prayers**

On Sunday, November 3, 2024, during our 10:15am worship service, we will have our annual All Saints Day worship service, where we offer prayers and read the names, in honor and memory of those members including Sue, who in the past year, have left this earthly realm and have gone on before us to enter the Church Triumphant. We wish to welcome you to that time of prayer and worship.

**Worship Service Resource Credits**

The liturgy for this service has been reprinted with permission from the *Book of Worship of the United Church of Christ* (1986), New York: United Church of Christ Office for Church Life and Leadership.

**Funeral Arrangements**

Arrangements are by Lamm & Witman Funeral Home, Inc.; 243 West Penn Avenue Wernersville, PA 19565; Phone: 610-678-3461; [www.lammandwitman.com](http://www.lammandwitman.com).

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**United Church of Christ of Robesonia**

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610-621-5770 \*\*\* [office@sprucc.org](mailto:office@sprucc.org)  
[www.SPRUCC.org](http://www.SPRUCC.org)

Pastor – The Rev. Dr. Benjamin D. Motz  
Pastor – The Rev. Mary Etta Mest  
Organist – The Rev. Robert Masenheimer  
Secretary - Ms. Geri Gammel  
Sexton – Mr. Michael Pastor

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*{Please turn electronic devices to “off” or “silent” during the worship service}*

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