

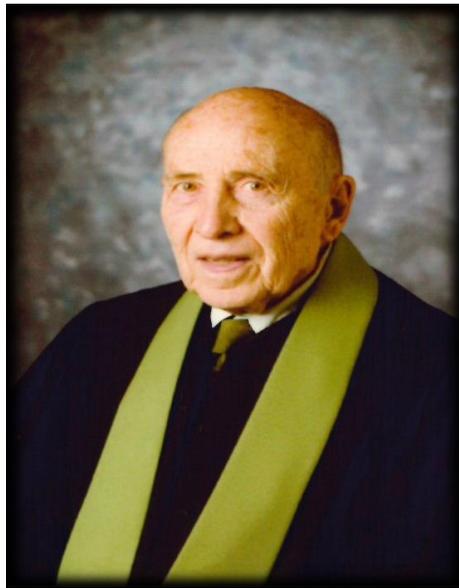
Outer Banks Presbyterian Church

Kill Devil Hills, North Carolina

A Service of Witness to the Resurrection
And Thanksgiving for the Life of

The Rev. Dr. Louis Richard Batzler

September 27, 1922 ~
November 29, 2016



Saturday, January 7, 2017
1:00 pm

The service of Death and Resurrection is an Easter liturgy. It finds all its meaning in the resurrection. Because Jesus was raised from the dead, we, too, shall be raised.

This service, therefore, is characterized by joy, in the certainty 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."

This joy, however, does not make human grief unchristian. The very love we have for each other in Christ brings deep sorrow when we are parted by death. Jesus himself wept at the grave of his friend. So, while we rejoice that the one we love has entered into a nearer presence of our Lord, we sorrow in sympathy with those who mourn.

The Order of Service

✠ Congregation standing as able

~ We Gather Together As God's People ~

THE PRELUDE..... Jason Evans & Sue Waters

✠ THE HYMN OF PROCESSION NO. 687: "Our God, Our Help in Ages Past".....ST. ANNE

✠ THE WORDS OF GRACE & GREETING (*Spoken in Unison*)

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and giving life to those in the tomb. Dying, Christ destroyed our death. Rising, Christ restored our life. Christ will come again in glory. As in baptism Richard put on Christ, so in Christ may Richard be clothed with glory. Here and now, dear friends, we are God's children. What we shall be has not yet been revealed; but we know that when he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. Those who have this hope purify themselves as Christ is pure. Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and I am life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, yet shall they live, and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die. I am the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last. I died and behold I am alive forevermore, and I hold the keys of hell and death. Because I live, you shall live also."

LEADER: The Lord be with you.

PEOPLE: **And also with you.**

LEADER: Let us pray.

✠ THE INVOCATION

O God, whose mercies cannot be numbered: Accept our prayers on behalf of your servant, Richard, and grant him an entrance into the land of light and joy, in the fellowship of your saints; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

✠ THE HYMN NO. 833: "O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go" ST. MARGARET

~ The Word of the Lord ~

THE PSALM (*Spoken in Unison*)Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake. Even though I walk through valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff—they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.

THE NEW TESTAMENT LESSON.....Revelation 21: 1-4

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, ‘See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.’

THE NAMING & WITNESSING

The Rev. Spottswood Graves
The Rev. Bob Pitsch
The Rev. John Rickers

THE NEW TESTAMENT LESSON..... Romans 8:28-39

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified. What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, ‘For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.’ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced 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.

THE CHORAL ANTHEM: “Refuge”..... Keith Christopher
The Sanctuary Choir

I am your refuge, I am your strength. I am your helper in time of trouble; so do not fear for I am your God. (based on Psalm 46: 1-2)

THE GOSPEL LESSON John 14: 1-3, 15-21

‘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.

‘If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of

truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. 'I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.'

THE HOMILY The Rev. Dr. Jody Moore

~We Respond to the Word~

✠THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*Spoken in Unison*) 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 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 (*Universal*) church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (*Spoken in Responsively*)

ONE: In the rising of the sun and in its going down, we remember them.

ALL: In the blowing of the wind and in the chill of winter, we remember them.

ONE: In the opening of the buds and in the rebirth of spring, we remember them.

ALL: In the blueness of the sky and in the warmth of summer, we remember them.

ONE: In the rustling of the leaves and in the beauty of autumn, we remember them.

ALL: In the beginning of the year and when it ends, we remember them.

ONE: When we are weary and in need of strength, we remember them.

ALL: When we are lost and sick at heart, we remember them.

ONE: When we have joys we yearn to share, we remember them.

ALL: So long as we live, they too shall live, for they are now a part of us as we remember them.

THE SILENT PRAYERS

THE SPECIAL MUSIC "The Lord's Prayer" Albert Mallote

Kimberly Monzon, soloist

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, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

~ We Commend Our Brother to God ~

✠THE COMMENDATION *(Spoken in Responsively)*

ONE: Give rest, O Christ, to your servant, Richard, with your saints

ALL: Where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing but life everlasting.

ONE: 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 us, saying, "You are dust, and to dust you shall return." All of us to dust; yet even at the grave we make our song: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

ALL: Give rest, O Christ to your servant, Richard, with your saints, where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant, Richard Batzler. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Receive him into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light. **Amen.**

~ We Go Forth in Jesus' Name ~

✠THE BENEDICTION

✠THE HYMN OF SENDING NO. 326: "For All the Saints".....SINE NOMINE

THE ORGAN POSTLUDE.....Jason Evans

**All are invited to greet the family at a reception in Richard's memory
in the fellowship hall immediately following the service.**

~ Service Participants ~

The Rev. Dr. Jody Moore, Officiate

The Rev. Bob Pitsch, The Rev. John Rickers &
The Rev. Spottswood Graves, Eulogists

Mr. Jason Evans, Director of Music Ministries/Organist

Ms. Sue Waters, Violinist

Mrs. Kimberly Monzon, Soloist

Mrs. Nonie Booth, Volunteer Choir Assistant

The Sanctuary Choir

- Obituary -

Louis Richard Batzler

Louis Richard Batzler died November 29, 2016. He was born in 1922 in Baltimore, MD, the son of John F. Batzler and Ruth C. Batzler, and the brother of John F. Batzler, Jr., Lloyd C. Batzler, Ruth M. Naff and Anne E. Naff. He was married to Evelyn M. (Greisz) Batzler for sixty-three years. Evelyn died in April, 2010. They have three children, Margaret A. Khoury, Louis R. Batzler, Jr. and Lloyd R. Batzler and two grandchildren, Richard J. and Katherine D. Batzler.

Louis Richard studied at Franklin and Marshall College in Lancaster, PA and was a graduate of Loyola College in Baltimore. He received his MA and PhD degrees in history at Georgetown University in Washington, DC. In 1960, he graduated from Lancaster Theological Seminary and was an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ. He served as pastor of churches in Pennsylvania, Maryland, Ohio, Louisiana, North Carolina and Scotland. His ministry also included college, hospital and hospice chaplain, and leadership positions in ecumenical and interfaith organizations.

As an educator, Dr. Batzler taught in a public school, in five colleges, youth camps, a holistic health center and a national counseling organization. He is the author of nine books and numerous articles in journals.

In addition, he worked in industry, was an intelligence officer in the United States Government, served in the US Navy and was a candidate for US Congress.

A Service of Witness to the Resurrection will be held at 1:00 pm on Saturday, January 7, 2017 at Outer Banks Presbyterian Church. Burial will take place in Frederick, MD.

Twiford Funeral Home, Manteo is assisting the family with arrangements. Condolences may be expressed at www.twifordfh.com.

Reverend Batzler's Last Words

Death and life after death have always been significant and consistent concerns for humanity. Death is not merely a biological or physical event that ends life. Death reaches into the very core and course of life. For human beings, death involves grief and mourning, fear, flighty, worry, anger, guilt, faith, hope, love and many other thoughts, emotions and behaviors. Death is a great teacher. The shadow of death often casts new light on life. The silence of death sometimes speaks more meaningfully than the words of life. The stillness of death frequently moves and motivates more than the actions of life. Death is the dispossessor, the leveler and equalizer. It comes to all, great and small. It visits the mansions of the rich and mighty and the hovels of the poor. Death and dying challenge our values, modify our goals, restrict our choices, limit our controls, qualify our relationships, disrupt our plans and dreams, threaten our identity, and call into question our past, present and future. Death confronts us with our basic nature, our very selfhood. Death is a time of truth.

JESUS' RESURRECTION

The resurrection of Jesus is a mystery,
Not subject to the scrutiny of history,
Yet no even in history's trace,
Has so affected the human race,
The raising of one man from death's prison,
Brought to humanity a new vision,
A vision of hope and inspiration,
That calls all to a new dedication,
To live on earth in such a way,
That death's apparent sway,
Will yield to God's love, power and will,
And life for all will continue still.

Our fundamental task as living human beings is to love life and struggle against death. But, when death comes to us, our faith in life must cause us to give ourselves to death as to moving toward a greater, more glorious life. To love life and to trust life and the Life Giver so completely that when we approach death we can be thankful for death as well as for life. This is the consciousness that can give us comfort and hope.

To love lavishly what is greater than oneself, to become one with a Greater Power involves a kind of death of the self. Death is bearable, is acceptable and even beautiful when one sees death as a passage toward union with God in a new and more glorious way – a majestic and meaningful metamorphosis and a transcendence beyond our greatest expectations.

PRESENCE

Like shadows at sun's final setting fade
away into darkness,

Like the wake from ship's bow vanishes in
billowy waters,

Like the flight of bird through the air leaves
no trace of passage,

Like footprints of the Bedouin disappear
under sifting, shifting sand,

Like smoke that disperses before the
restless wind –

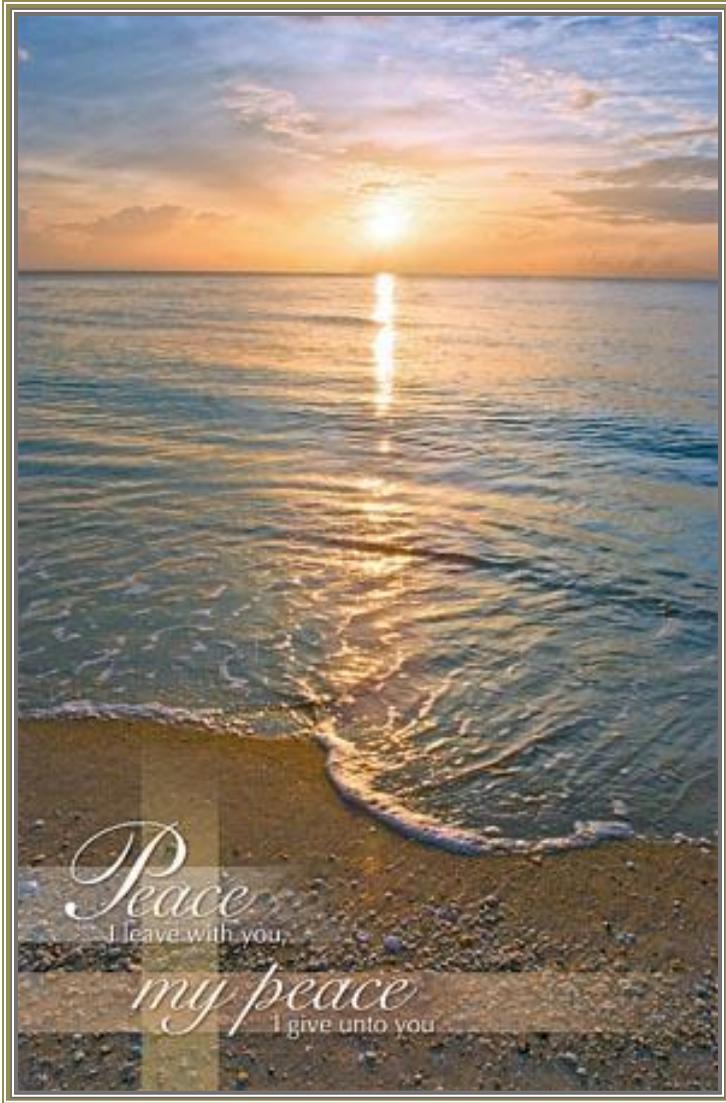
So is the way of all flesh,

Gone to eye, ear, touch,

Yet in minds and hearts of those who live
on,

The presence persists and resists

Distraughting noughting.



Outer Banks Presbyterian Church

www.outerbankspresbyterian.org

907 S. Croatan Highway / P.O. Box 2199

Kill Devil Hills, NC 27948

252.441.5897

