



The Iris Gardens at St. Mark's & Sandra's home in Nina's Memory

“Perhaps they are not stars,
but rather openings in heaven
where the love of our lost ones
pours through and shines down
upon us to let us know
they are happy.”
Inuit Proverb

IN THANKSGIVING FOR
AND CELEBRATION OF
THE LIFE OF
NINA ALICE OLMSTED
JULY 27, 1926-JANUARY 14, 2025

MAY 31, 2025

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
4714 CLIFTON AVE
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63109

The Burial of the Dead: Rite Two

Throughout this morning's service, we will sing hymns marking the movements of the day. As we journey through this world, God accompanies us throughout the phases of our life. Today, our hymns reflect that movement.

Preludes

**"We all believe in one true God"
"Jesus Christ, Our Redeemer"**

**Johann Pacelbel
Dietrich Buxtehude**

All stand as they are able while the following anthems are said in procession.

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

Opening Hymn 7 *"Christ, Whose Glory fills the Skies"* *Blue 1982 Hymnal*

The Presider then says

The Lord be with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Presider Let us pray.

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you this day our sister Nina. We thank you for giving her to us, her family and friends, to know and to love as a companion on our earthly pilgrimage. In your boundless compassion, console us who mourn. Give us faith to see in death the gate of eternal life, so that in quiet confidence we may continue our course on earth, until, by your call, we are reunited with those who have gone before; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The congregation will be seated

Proverbs 8: 1-3;9:1-6

A reading from the book of Proverbs

Does not wisdom call and understanding raise her voice? On the heights, beside the way, at the crossroads she takes her stand; beside the gates in front of the town, at the entrance of the portals she cries out: Wisdom has built her house; she has hewn her seven pillars. She has slaughtered her animals; she has mixed her wine; she has also set her table. She has sent out her female

servants; she calls from the highest places in the town, “You who are simple, turn in here!” To those without sense she says, “Come, eat of my bread and drink of the wine I have mixed. Lay aside immaturity and live, and walk in the way of insight.”

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: ***Thanks be to God.***

Psalm 121

I lift up my eyes to the hills *

From where is my help to come?

My help comes from the Lord, *

The maker of heaven and earth.

The Lord will not let your foot be moved, *

And the One who watches over you will not fall asleep.

Behold, the One who keeps watch over

Israel *

shall neither slumber nor sleep.

It is the Lord who watches over you; *

The Lord is your shade at your right hand,
So that the sun shall not strike you by day, *
nor the moon by night.

The Lord shall preserve you from all evil; *
the Lord shall keep you safe.

The Lord shall watch over your going out
and your coming in, *

from this time forth for evermore.

Sequence Hymn 17 “Now Let Us Sing Our Praise to God” *Blue 1982 Hymnal*

All stand as they are able.

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John.

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

The Gospel John 14:1-7

Jesus said to his disciples, “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. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Homily

The congregation will be seated.

The Rev. Delaney Schlake-Kruse

You will find reflective writings tucked inside your bulletin. Please take a few moments to read through them, see which catches your attention, and spend some time in reflection.

The Apostles’ Creed *All stand as they are able.*

Deacon: In the assurance of eternal life given at Baptism, let us proclaim our faith and say,

The Deacon and People together

***I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.***

*I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
 He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.
 He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried.
 He descended to the dead.
 On the third day he rose again.
 He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
 He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
 I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy catholic Church,
 the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body,
 and the life everlasting. Amen.*

Prayers of the People *The congregation may stand or kneel.*

Presider The Lord be with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Presider Let us pray.

Deacon For our sister Nina, let us pray to our Lord Jesus Christ who said, "I am Resurrection and I am Life."

Lord, you consoled Martha and Mary in their distress; draw near to us who mourn for Nina, and dry the tears of those who weep. *People: **Hear us, Lord.***

You wept at the grave of Lazarus, your friend; comfort us in our sorrow. *People: **Hear us, Lord.***

You raised the dead to life; give to our sister eternal life. *People: **Hear us, Lord.***

You promised paradise to the thief who repented; bring our sister to the joys of heaven. *People: **Hear us, Lord.***

Our sister was washed in Baptism and anointed with the Holy Spirit; give her fellowship with all your saints. *People: **Hear us, Lord.***

She was nourished with your Body and Blood; grant her a place at the table in your heavenly kingdom. *People: **Hear us, Lord.***

Comfort us in our sorrows at the death of our sister; let our faith be our consolation, and eternal life our hope. *People: **Hear us, Lord.***

Presider Lord Jesus Christ, by your death you took away the sting of death: Grant to us your servants so to follow in faith where you have led the way, that we may at length fall asleep peacefully in you and wake up in your likeness; for your tender mercies' sake. *People: **Amen.***

The Peace

All stand. The Presider says to the people

The Peace of Christ be always with you.

People ***And also with you.***

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Eucharistic Prayer C

Presider The Lord be with you.
People ***And also with you.***
Presider Lift up your hearts.
People ***We lift them to the Lord.***
Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People ***It is right to give thanks and praise.***

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Presider proceeds.

Presider God of all power, Source and Sustainer of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.
People ***Glory to you for ever and ever.***
Presider At your command all things came to be: shining light and enfolding dark; the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, and this fragile earth, our island home.
People ***By your will they were created and have their being.***
Presider From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with the capacity for memory, reason, and skill. You made us the stewards of your creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.
People ***Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.***
Presider Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your eternal Word, born of your servant Mary, to fulfill your Law, opening for us the way of freedom and peace.
People ***By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.***
Presider And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Presider and People

Holy, Holy Hymnal S 128 Mathias

Blue 1982 Hymnal

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.***

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Then the Presider continues

Presider On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

Presider After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Presider Remembering now his work of redemption and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

People ***We celebrate Christ's death and resurrection as we await the day of his coming.***

Presider Therefore, O God, we who have been redeemed by Jesus Christ, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Savior.

Presider Sanctify us also, and let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

People ***Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.***

Presider God of our ancestors; Redeemer and Mother of Israel; God and Abba of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only and not for strength; for pardon only and not for renewal. Accept these prayers and praises, Almighty God, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN.**

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

Presider and People

***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

Presider Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People ***Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.***

Distribution of Communion: *All are welcome to receive Holy Communion at this table. Gluten free hosts are available. At the altar rail, please let the priest or deacon know that you require gluten free. If you would like a blessing instead of Holy Communion, please come forward and cross your hands over your chest as a signal for the priest. If you are not able to come up to the altar, let an usher know and the ministers will bring communion to you.*

Communion Hymn 34 *"Christ, Mighty Savior, Light of all Creation"* *Blue 1982 Hymnal*
The congregation will be seated.

Prayer After Communion *All stand as they are able*

(In unison) Almighty God, we thank you that in your great love you have fed us with the spiritual food and drink of the Body and Blood 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.**

The Commendation

Presider Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with your saints,

People ***Where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.***

Presider 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.

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

The Presider, facing the cremains, says

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Nina Alice Olmsted. 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.

People: Amen.

The Blessing *The Presider blesses the congregation.*

The Dismissal

The Deacon dismisses the people with these words

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People ***The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.***

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

Closing Hymn 662 *“Abide With Me, Fast Falls the Eventide”* *Blue 1982 Hymnal*

Postlude: “When Irish Eyes are Smiling” **Ernest R. Ball**

What we once enjoyed and deeply loved we can never lose.
For all that we love deeply becomes a part of us. – Helen Keller--

LEADING OUR WORSHIP

Presider & Homilist	The Rev. Delaney Schlake-Kruse
Deacon	The Rev. Jerre Birdsong
Organist	Kim Jungermann
Lector	Vicki Stegmann
Greeter	Marti Robards
Usher	Diane Nienkemper
Altar Guild	Ellen Jeffery
Chalice Bearers	Scott Thompson/Roger Robards
Crucifer	Scott Thompson
Livestream	Vicki Stegmann



Nina Alice (nee Manning) Olmsted, 98, passed away in her sleep on the morning of Tuesday, January 14, 2025, at Alton Memorial Rehab and Therapy in Alton, IL. Nina was born on July 27, 1926, near Fieldon, IL, as the oldest child of the late Bruce Waite and Dorothy (nee Clark) Manning. Nina always loved everything about life and the wonders of God's world, and she lived a life of small adventures. She worked from a young age, including at the Grafton movie theater, which encouraged her lifelong love of cinema. Because Grafton's education ended at the 11th grade, Nina chose to move to California to get to know her paternal grandmother and attended Hayward High School, from which she graduated on D-Day, June 6th, 1944. After returning briefly to Grafton, Nina moved to Chicago, where she lived in a North Sheridan Road rooming house for

women and worked in downtown Chicago as a secretary and a clothing model at department stores. Nina told marvelous stories about her friends from this era and, in later years, remembered dancing a million miles in her lifetime. After a few years in Chicago, she returned to Grafton and worked at Pere Marquette Lodge as the Hostess, where she met and, on December 3, 1947, married Donald Edwin Olmsted, the nephew of Stanley and Mary Gill, who owned the Lodge's concession. The Lodge remained a touchstone for family and friends. After several moves, Nina and Donald settled in Albuquerque, NM, in 1957, and Nina embraced the challenges of raising her children many miles from extended family. Nina and Donald returned to Illinois in 1966, living in Jerseyville and then LaSalle until retiring to Jerseyville in 1988.

Nina's greatest adventure and great love of her life was being a wife and mother. Using her copies of Meta Given Cookbooks' household and nutrition tips and recipes, Nina mastered these endeavors. She loved cooking Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners, and her potato salad and Pasta Alla Caprese are legendary. Meanwhile, Nina fed her eager and curious mind by reading voraciously, writing a little while dreaming of writing more, and analyzing world events through perceptive study and thought. Her keen sense of humor and joyous, infectious laugh were wondrous to share. She loved her garden of Irises, Day Lilies, and every blooming, growing thing in God's Good Creation. Nina's devotion to excellence and desire to be a good Christian inspired friends and family, and her mantra for loving the world and life was and will remain "Have Hope!" Nina is preceded in death by her parents, her sister Marjorie (nee Manning) Klug, brothers Dennis L. Manning and Robert B. Manning, and dear friends Tony and Jo Romano. Nina is survived by her brother Loyal Clark Manning of Long Lane, MO; her children, Candice Farmer of Marble Falls, TX, Bruce (Barb) Olmsted of Dow, IL, and Sandra L. Olmsted, PhD, of St. Louis, MO; and grandchildren Stanley "Stan" R. Farmer and his wife, Julie McGehee Farmer, of Horseshoe Bay, TX; Matt (Kelly) Olmsted of Alton, Jennifer (John) Fox and Julie Olmsted (David Dwyer) all of Jerseyville as well as 8 Great Grandchildren: Amber R. Farmer of Morganton, NC, Sierra R. Farmer of Austin, TX, Emersyn, Everly, and Elowynn Olmsted of Alton, and Nolan, Sydney, and Lane Fox of Jerseyville. In addition, Nina is survived by many nieces and nephews, especially Melody Manning, with whom Nina shared shopping adventures; Dorothy Manning, Scott and Zdenka Manning, Mary Morley, and Bill Klug; and numerous friends, who dearly loved her, especially Judy Holmes and the Bunco Ladies.



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