

*Louise 'Rusty' Fortier*  
*December 25, 1925 - May 14, 2022*

Louise "Rusty" Fortier departed peacefully, surrounded by her family and in the compassionate care of Nathan Adelson Hospice on May 14, 2022 at the age of 96. She was preceded in death by her parents Hallie Mae Bede and Joseph Gaines, and by her oldest daughter, Connie West and her husband Mike. She is survived by five children: Renee Fortier, Kathleen DeVleming (John), Annette Whittemore (Harvey), Quincy Fortier (Sandra), and Dana Fortier. She dearly loved her 17 grandchildren: Ali, Carli, Aimee, Eric, Aaron (deceased), Chris, Nicole, DJ, Andrea, Scott, Natalie, Chase, Cherish, Adam, Matthew, Amber, and Jesse (deceased), and 24 great grandchildren.



Rusty was born in Dexter, Missouri on December 25, 1925. She spent her childhood years in Detroit, Michigan where she learned to love school and sports of all kinds, especially playing ball with the boys. It was on the field with her friends that she got the nickname Rusty. She attended church by herself as a seven-year-old child and learned to love attending churches of many denominations. Her faith in God was unwavering and remained with her until her final hour.

She loved coffee, scotch, her dog Luke, solving crossword puzzles, the UNLV Rebels, tennis, golf, bowling, baseball, and candy. She read the comics first, smiled and laughed throughout the day, read voraciously, and loved to talk about current events. She instilled a love of reading and learning in all her children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. She was a talented horsewoman and enjoyed riding in many Hellorado Day Parades. She competed in a national-finals for amateur bowling, and at the age of 55 took up tennis becoming a local doubles champion.

She was a community leader in her church (Christ Church Episcopal), the Camp Fire Girls and the YMCA. In spite of her busy schedule, she always had time for her family and close friends.

She was a lifelong learner, so after her children graduated from high school, she enrolled at both UNLV and at the University of Nevada where she excelled as a student, especially in philosophy. She was a prolific writer of poetry.

In her professional life, Rusty worked as a secretary for the food and beverage director of the Westward Ho, and was eventually promoted to a senior position within the vice president's office. She was appreciated for her professional abilities and her polite customer service. Later, she was employed at the Clark County School District at what was then called SNVTC. Her writing skills and personal charm endeared her to both faculty and students.

Although she was always a devout Christian, the one overarching passion in her later years was Christ Church Episcopal, which became her second family. She was active on the Vestry and also served as Junior Warden. But it was her love of a good story that led to her true calling: the Christ Church Historian, a position she held for more than thirty years.

Rusty had a beautiful soul, full of joy, kindness and warmth; she was loving, gentle and generous; and those she touched will remember her forever. She was happy because she had a knack for making other people happy.

In lieu of flowers, please make contributions to Christ Church Episcopal or Nathan Adelson Hospice.

**Ministers of the Service**

The Rev. Elizabeth Zivanov, Celebrant

The Rev. Bonnie Polley, Deacon

Mr. Frank Shaw, Acolyte

*A Service of Resurrection  
and Remembrance*

*Louise 'Rusty' Fortier*

*December 25, 1925 - May 14, 2022*



Friday, June 24, 2022

Christ Church Episcopal  
2000 S Maryland Parkway, Las Vegas, Nevada 89104

**A Celebration for the Life of Rusty Fortier**

**Prelude**

*Be Thou My Vision*  
*Prayer, from Suite Gothique*  
*I Need Thee Every Hour*

Emily Portman  
 Leon Boellmann  
 Jason Payne

*All stand*

I am the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord; he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live; and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.

I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth; and though this body be destroyed, yet shall I see God; whom I shall see for myself and mine eyes shall behold, and not as a stranger.

For no one of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself. For if we live, we live unto the Lord, and if we die, we die unto the Lord. Whether we live, therefore, or die, we are the Lord's.

Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord; even so saith the Spirit, for they rest from their labors.

The Lord be with you.  
**And with thy spirit.**  
 Let us pray.

O God, whose mercies cannot be numbered: Accept our prayers on behalf of thy servant, Rusty, and grant him an entrance into the land of light and joy, in the fellowship of thy saints; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

*The people sit*

**A reading from the Prophet of Isaiah**

*Ms. Annette Whittemore*

You will say in that day:  
 I will give thanks to you, O LORD,  
 for though you were angry with me,  
 your anger turned away,  
 and you comforted me.  
 Surely God is my salvation;  
 I will trust, and will not be afraid,  
 for the LORD GOD is my strength and my might;  
 he has become my salvation  
 With joy you will draw water from the  
 wells of salvation. And you will say on that day:  
 Give thanks to the LORD,  
 call on his name;  
 make known his deeds among the nations;  
 proclaim that his name is exalted  
 Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously;  
 let this be known in all the earth.  
 Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion,  
 for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel

Here ends the reading.

**438 First Tune**

**General Hymns**  
 64. 64, with Refrain

ROBERT LOWRY, 1872

NEED  
*Without dragging*

1 I need thee ev - 'ry hour, Most gra - cious Lord;  
 2 I need thee ev - 'ry hour; Stay thou near by;  
 3 I need thee ev - 'ry hour, In joy or pain;

No ten - der voice like thine Can peace af - ford.  
 Temp - ta - tions lose their power When thou art nigh.  
 Come quick - ly and a - bide, Or life is vain.

*Refrain*

I need thee, O I need thee, Ev - 'ry hour I need thee;

O bless me now, my Sa - viour, I come to thee. A - men.

Copyright, 1914, by Mary Runyon Lowry. Renewed.

4 I need thee every hour;  
 Teach me thy will;  
 And thy rich promises  
 In me fulfil. *Refrain*  
 Amen.

*Rusty's family invites you to join them in the parish hall immediately after the service for light refreshments and to share stories of Rusty.*

**Hymn 691**

“My faith looks up to thee”

**The Committal** *At the procession to the columbarium, the Celebrant says*

All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me will in no wise cast out.

He that raised Jesus Christ from the dead will also give life to our mortal bodies, by his Spirit that dwelleth in us.

Wherefore my heart is glad, and my spirit rejoiceth; my flesh also shall rest in hope.

Thou shalt show me the path of life; in thy presence there is fullness of joy, and at thy right hand there is pleasure for evermore.

*In the columbarium, while the urn is placed in its niche, the Celebrant says*

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to Almighty God our sister Rusty, and we commit her body to its resting place; earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust. The Lord bless Rusty and keep her, the Lord make his face to shine upon Rusty and be gracious to her, the Lord lift up his countenance upon Rusty and give her peace. *Amen.*

*The Celebrant says*

The Lord be with you.  
And also with you.  
Let us pray.

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
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,  
Forever and ever. Amen*

Rest eternal grant to Rusty, O Lord:  
And let light perpetual shine upon her.

May her soul, and the souls of all the departed,  
through the mercy of God, rest in peace. *Amen.*

*The Celebrant dismisses the people with these words*

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant: Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. *Amen.*

**Postlude**

*Minuer*, from Suite Gothique

Leon Boellman

**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;  
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.

**A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans**

*Mr. Scott Whittemore*

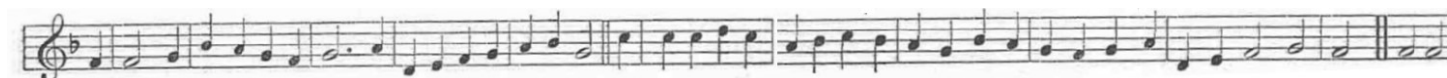
For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, ‘Abba! Father!’ it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ — if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; 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? 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.

Here ends the reading.

**Hymn**

“O Love that wilt not let me go”

AJ Morse



O Love that will not let me go, I rest my weary soul in thee.  
I give thee back the life I owe, that in thine ocean depths its flow may richer, fuller be.  
O Light that follows all my way, I yield my flick'ring torch to thee.  
My heart restores its borrowed ray, that in thy sunshine's blaze its day may brighter, fairer be.  
O Joy that seekest me through pain, I cannot close my heart to thee.  
I trace the rainbow through the rain, and feel the promise is not vain, that morn shall tearless be.  
O Cross that liftest up my head, I dare not ask to fly from thee.  
I lay in dust, life's glory dead, and from the ground there blossoms red,  
life that shall endless be. Amen.

**Remarks**

*Ms. Kathleen DeVleming  
Mr. DJ Whittemore  
Ms. Renee Fortier*

## The Gospel

*All standing.*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.  
*Glory be to thee, O Christ.*

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.

The Gospel of the Lord.  
*Glory be to thee, O Christ.*

## Homily

*The Rev. Steven Kalas*

## Hymn 438

"I need thee every hour"

*FOUND ON INSIDE BACK COVER*

## 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 Church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

## The Prayers of the People

*The people respond to every petition with 'Amen.'*

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Almighty God, who hast knit together thine elect in one communion and fellowship, in the mystical body of thy Son Christ our Lord: Grant, we beseech thee, to thy whole Church in paradise and on earth, thy light and thy peace. *Amen.*

Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to newness of life, and that through the grave and gate of death we may pass with him to our joyful resurrection. *Amen.*

Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith, that thy Holy Spirit may lead us in holiness and righteousness all our days. *Amen.*

Grant to thy faithful people pardon and peace, that we may be cleansed from all our sins, and serve thee with a quiet mind. *Amen.*

Grant to all who mourn a sure confidence in thy fatherly care, that, casting all their grief on thee, they may know the consolation of thy love. *Amen.*

Give courage and faith to those who are bereaved, that they may have strength to meet the days ahead in the comfort of a reasonable and holy hope, in the joyful expectation of eternal life with those they love. *Amen.*

Help us, we pray, in the midst of things we cannot understand, to believe and trust in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, and the resurrection to life everlasting. *Amen.*

Grant us grace to entrust Rusty to thy never-failing love; receive her into the arms of thy mercy, and remember her according to the favor which thou bearest unto thy people. *Amen.*

Grant us, with all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, to have our consummation and bliss in thy eternal and everlasting glory, and, with all thy saints, to receive the crown of life which thou dost promise to all who share in the victory of thy Son Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

## The Peace

## Hymn 671

"Amazing Grace"

## The Holy Eucharist

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

*The celebrant continues with the Prayers on page 333 in the red Book of Common Prayer.*

## The Fraction

Alleluia. Christ, our Passover, is sacrificed for us.  
*Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.*

## Communion

*At the time for distributing communion, all are welcome to follow the directions of the ushers to join us at the Lord's table. If you do not wish to receive the host but to receive a blessing instead, cross your arms over your chest and the priest or deacon will give you blessing in God's name.*

## Hymn 213

"Come Away to the Skies"

*Kathi Coleman, soloist*

## Post Communion Prayer

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you that in your great love thou hast fed us with the spiritual food and drink of the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ, and has given to 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

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

Thou only art immortal, the creator and maker of mankind; and we are mortal, formed of the earth, and unto earth shall we return. For so thou didst ordain when thou createdst me, saying, "Dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return." All we go down to the dust; yet even at the grave we make our song: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.  
*Give rest, O Christ, to thy servant with thy saints, where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.*

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