

**An asterisk indicates an invitation to stand
Bold print indicates congregational participation*

Welcome

*Opening Sentences *(responsively)*

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.
If we live, we live to the Lord;
and if we die, we die to the Lord.
So then, whether we live or whether we die,
we are the Lord's.

*Prayer

*Hymn

Just As I Am, without One Plea

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*Just as I am, without one plea but that thy blood was shed for me,
and that thou biddest me come to thee, O Lamb of God, I come; I come!*

*Just as I am, though tossed about with many'a conflict, many'a doubt,
fightings and fears within, without, O Lamb of God, I come; I come!*

*Just as I am, thou wilt receive, wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
because thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come; I come!*

*Just as I am, thy love unknown has broken every barrier down;
now to be thine, yea, thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come; I come!*

Prayer of Confession *(unison)*

Holy God, you see us as we are, and know our inmost thoughts. We confess that we are unworthy of your gracious care. We have not always sought you or done your will. We have not lived as your grateful children, nor loved as Christ loved us. Apart from you, we are nothing; only your grace can sustain us. Lord, in your mercy forgive us, heal us, and make us whole. Set us free from our sins, and restore to us the joy of your salvation now and forever. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness *(responsively)*

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and made new.
Thanks be to God! Amen.

Prayer for Illumination

Poetry

“The Messenger” by Mary Oliver

Scripture Readings

Psalm 23, John 14:1-6, Philippians 4:4-7

Homily

Rev. Keith Phillips

*An Affirmation of Faith *(responsively)*

The Heidelberg Catechism

What is your only comfort in life and death?

That I am not my own, but belong – body and soul, both in life and in death – to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

Special Music

Be Thou My Vision

*Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
thou my best thought, by day or by night, waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.*

*Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word; I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tower; raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.*

*Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise; thou, mine inheritance, now and always;
thou and thou only, first in my heart, High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.*

*High King of Heaven, my victory won, may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O Ruler of all.*

Prayer of Thanksgiving

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

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

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*Precious Lord, take my hand; lead me on, help me stand;
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light;
take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.*

*When my way grows drear, precious Lord, linger near;
when my life is almost gone,
hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall;
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.*

*Benediction

*Benediction Response

Go, My Children, with My Blessing (v. 1)

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*“Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone.
Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own.
In my love's baptismal river
I have made you mine forever.
Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own.”*

Anita Helen Brechtel
January 5, 1937 – January 12, 2026

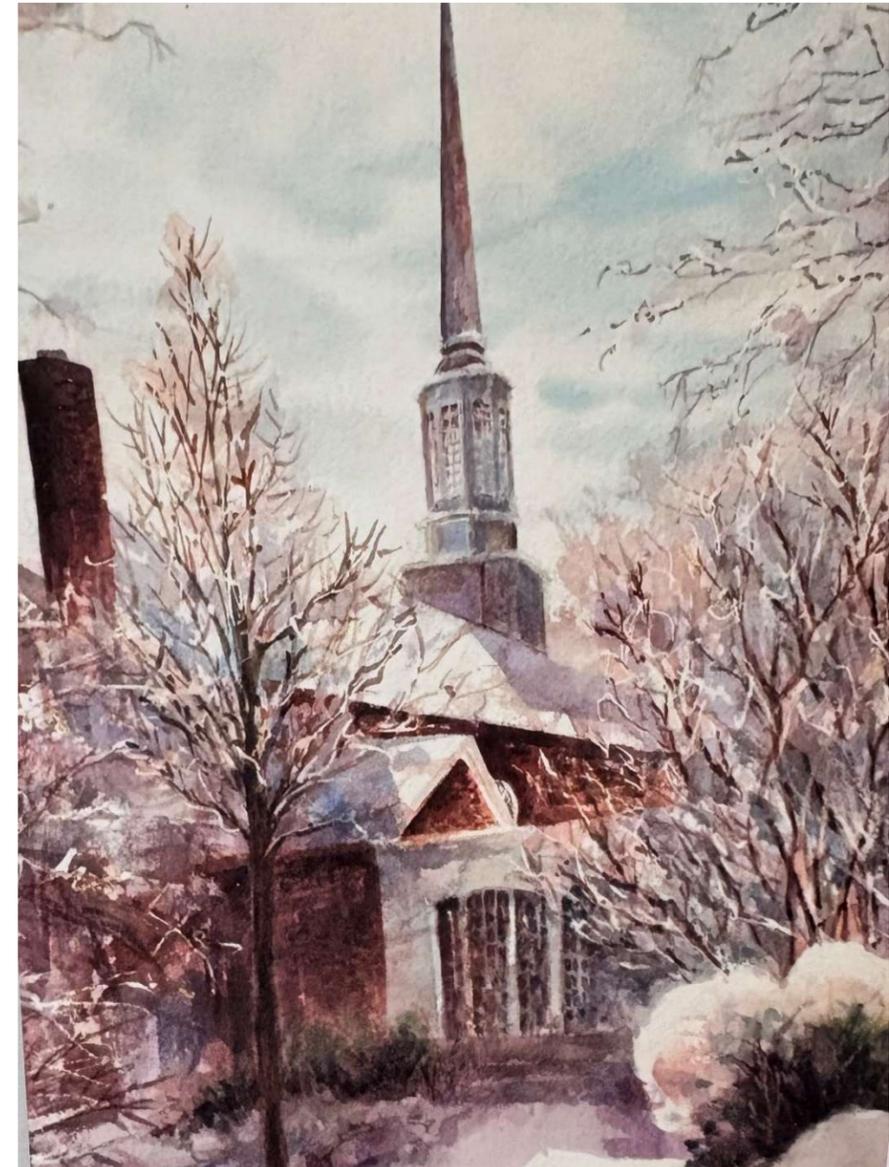
Anita Helen Brechtel, 89, of Rockingham, VA passed away peacefully in her sleep on Monday, January 12, 2026, at Sunnyside Retirement Community.

She was born on January 5, 1937 in Milwaukee, WI to the late Jacob and Helene Doege Brechtel.

Anita was a high school PE teacher and coach (volleyball, track & field, cheerleaders, pom poms) for 36 years in Wheaton, IL and moved to Sunnyside in Harrisonburg, VA in 2014 to be near family. Anita enjoyed swimming, dancing, sports, music, and singing in choirs. She was an artist her entire life and painting was her passion. She was a member of the Illinois Watercolor Society and Shenandoah Valley Watercolor Society and was well-known for her beautiful watercolor paintings. She was an active member of Wheaton Presbyterian Church (deacon, Stephen Minister, Sacred Arts, choir, P.E.O) and Massanutten Presbyterian Church (choir, P.E.O). Anita loved traveling and traveled extensively in the US and Europe. At Sunnyside, she enjoyed being involved in promoting art and creativity and spending time with her dear friends. Anita was well known for her positive attitude, her encouraging words, and praise of others. Anita had deep faith in the Lord and often expressed how blessed she was in her life. She was kind, funny, compassionate, generous, and enjoyed being a blessing to others. She was deeply loved by all her family, friends, former colleagues, and students.

Anita is survived by nieces/nephew, Heidi Lomasney (Don) of Wheaton IL, Wendi Barnes (Devlin) of Winona Lake, IN, Steven Hopp (Darlene) of Weldon Spring, MO, Laurie Weese (Robert) of Broadway, VA, and 11 great nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by two sisters, Mary Phingsten and Dorothy Hopp; brother-in-law, Arnold Phingsten and nephew, John Phingsten.



Your Loved One Lives in Your Heart
by Helen Steiner Rice

*May tender memories soften your grief,
may fond recollection bring you relief,
and may you find comfort and peace in the thought
of the joy that knowing your loved one brought.*

*For time and space can never divide
or keep your loved one from your side
when memory paints in colors true
the happy hours that belonged to you.*



*A Service for the Worship of God
and Witness to the Resurrection
of Anita Helen Brechtel*

Saturday, February 21, 2026, 2:00 p.m.
Massanutten Presbyterian Church