

A Funeral Service for

# Virginia M. Swann

## “Ginny”

March 11, 1953 - July 9, 2020



Tuesday, December 15, 2020

Graveside Service at 11:30 am  
Parklawn Cemetery  
12800 Veirs Mill Rd, Rockville, MD 20853

**Virtual Funeral Service at 4:00 pm**  
**Via Zoom or Phone**  
**St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church**  
**Wheaton Parish**

## **How to join this worship service remotely**

### Online

Devices: <https://tinyurl.com/StMaryMagSilverSpring>

### From your phone:

+1 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 821 035 6879

*If you are using a landline and cost is an issue,  
you may instead dial this toll-free number:*

+1 877-853-5257 Meeting ID: 821 035 6879

# Obituary

## Virginia M. Swann

### “Ginny”

March 11, 1953 - July 9, 2020

Virginia M. Swann, “Ginny,” passed away on July 9, 2020. Born Virginia Maude Swann on March 11, 1953, in Washington, D.C., she was the beloved daughter of the late Bertie B. Swann and Louis D. Swann. She lived most of her life in Montgomery County, MD. Ginny earned her bachelors degree from Frostburg State College and went on to receive a Masters from West Virginia University. She was always interested in history and service to others, and taught the disabled for many years. Ginny had a quiet, yet warm personality with a quick wit and fun sense of humor. She loved the Lord and the Episcopalian faith and was a lifelong member of St. Mary Magdalene Church, serving on the Altar Guild for over 20 years. She is survived by thirteen cousins. Ginny was a gentle soul and a loyal friend.

“Rest eternal grant to her, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon her.”





# Funeral Service

## Prelude

## Opening Anthems

*Priest* 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.

## Hymn

### *Amazing Grace*

**1. Amazing grace! How sweet the sound  
that saved a wretch like me!**

**I once was lost, but now am found,  
was blind, but now I see.**

**2. 'Twas grace first taught my heart to fear  
and grace my fears relieved;  
how precious did that grace appear  
the hour I first believed!**

**3. The Lord has promised good to me,  
his word my hope secures;  
he will my shield and portion be  
as long as life endures.**

**4. Through many dangers, toils and snares  
I have already come;  
'tis grace that brought me safe thus far,  
and grace will lead me home.**

**5. When we've been there ten thousand years  
bright shining as the sun,  
we've no less days to sing God's praise  
than when we first begun.**

## The Collect

*Priest* The Lord be with you.

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

*Priest* Let us pray.

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you this day our sister Virginia. 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

Most merciful God, whose wisdom is beyond our understanding: Deal graciously with Kathleen and Ginny's family in their grief. Surround them with your love, that he may not be overwhelmed by his loss, but have confidence in your goodness, and strength to meet the days to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

## First Reading                      Lamentations 3:22-26,31

*Reader* The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. "The LORD is my portion," says my soul, "therefore I will hope in him." The LORD is good to those who wait for him, to the soul that seeks him. It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the LORD. For the Lord will not reject forever. Although he causes grief, he will have compassion according to the abundance of his steadfast love; for he does not willingly afflict or grieve anyone.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

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

## Psalm 23

*People* **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.**

## Second Reading

## Revelation 21:2-7

*Reader* 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 as their God; 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.' And the one who was seated on the throne said, 'See, I am making all things new.' Also he said, 'Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.' Then he said to me, 'It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God and they will be my children.'

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God**

## Hymn

*In the Garden*

L-69 C. Austin Miles

**1. I come to the garden alone  
While the dew is still on the roses  
And the voice I hear falling on my ear  
The Son of God discloses.**

*And He walks with me, and He talks with me,  
And He tells me I am His own;  
And the joy we share as we tarry there,  
None other has ever known.*

**2. He speaks, and the sound of His voice,  
Is so sweet the birds hush their singing,  
And the melody that He gave to me  
Within my heart is ringing.**

**3. I'd stay in the garden with Him  
Though the night around me be falling,  
But He bids me go; through the voice of woe  
His voice to me is calling.**

## The Gospel

## John 14:1-6

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

Jesus said, '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.'

*Priest* The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People* **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

## Homily

The Rev. Sarah Lamming

## The Apostles' Creed

*People* **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.**

## The Prayers

*Leader* For our sister Ginny 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 Ginny and dry the tears of those who weep.  
*People* **Hear us, Lord.**

*Leader* You wept at the grave of Lazarus, your friend; comfort us in our sorrow.

*People* **Hear us, Lord.**

*Leader* You raised the dead to life; give to our sister Ginny eternal life.

*People* **Hear us, Lord.**

*Leader* You promised paradise to the thief who repented; bring our sister to the joys of heaven.

*People* **Hear us, Lord.**

*Leader* Our sister Ginny was washed in Baptism and anointed with the Holy Spirit; give her fellowship with all your saints.

*People* **Hear us, Lord.**

*Leader* She was nourished with your Body and Blood; grant her a place at the table in your heavenly kingdom.

*People* **Hear us, Lord.**

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

*Priest* Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to you our sister Ginny who was reborn by water and the Spirit in Holy Baptism. Grant that her death may recall to us your victory over death, and be an occasion for us to renew our trust in your Father's love. Give us, we pray, the faith to follow where you have led the way; and where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, to the ages of ages.

*People* **Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

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

*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 Commendation

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

*Priest* 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.

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

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

## The Blessing

*Priest* May Christ the good shepherd enfold you with love, fill you with peace, and lead you in hope, to the end of your days; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

*Priest* **Amen.**

*Lift High the cross, the love of Christ proclaim  
till all the world adore his sacred Name.*

1. Led on their way by this triumphant sign,  
the hosts of **God** in conquering ranks combine.
2. Each newborn servant of the **Crucified**  
bears on the brow the seal of him who died.
3. **O Lord**, once lifted on the glorious tree,  
as thou hast promised, draw the world to thee.
4. So shall our song of triumph ever be:  
praise to the **Crucified** for victory.

**Dismissal**

*Priest* Alleluia, alleluia. Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

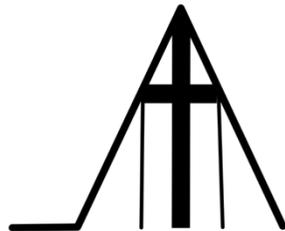
*People* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

**Postlude**





***Trust in the Lord***



ST. MARY MAGDALENE  
MISA MAGDALENA

**Participants in the Service**

**The Rev. Dr. Sarah Lamming**  
*Celebrant*

**Richard Dale Taylor (Prelude and Postlude)**  
**James Fitzpatrick (Hymns)**  
*Organist*