

good and faithful servant!



In Loving Memory of Kathleen R. Hopkins

March 13,1944-November10,2025

# A Celebration of Life for Kathleen R. Hopkins



## Church of the Messiah 816 Kempsville Road, Chesapeake, VA 23320

#### **Celebrant:**

The Rev. Dr. Martin K. O'Rourke The Rev. Vivian Hayes

#### **Musicians:**

Worship Leader: Amberlea Darden Keyboard and Vocal: Cheryl Winget

### **Eucharist Ministers:**

The Rev. Dr. Martin K. O'Rourke The Rev. Vivian Hayes Ron and Cherry Jenson

#### **Reception:**

Please join us in continuing the celebration of Kathy's life. A reception in her honorwill immediately follow the service in the Fellowship Hall.

Welcome Pastor Marty O'Rourke

Opening Scriptures Pastor Vivian Hayes

Song It Is Well With My Soul

Prayer For Family and Friends Pastor Vivian Hayes

**Scripture Readings** 

Proverbs 31: 10-12, 25-29 Nancy Haines Romans 5:1-5 Jenny Jenson

Gospel Reading

Matthew 5:1-12 Cole Dailey

Words From Family and Friends

Homily Pastor Marty O'Rourke

Song Amazing Grace

Communion

Communion Songs How Great Thou Art,

Blessed Assurance

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Benediction Pastor Marty O'Rourke

Closing Song Eternal Father,

Strong to Save

Kathleen "Kathy" Ricards Hopkins, 81, of Virginia Beach passedon Monday, November 10, 2025.

Kathy is predeceased by her parents John Ricards and Susanna Hoffer Ricards, her in-laws Ralph and Anna Hopkins and brother-in-law Stephen Hopkins, and two of her brothers, John "Jackie" Ricards and Andrew Ricards.

Kathy is survived by her husband Ralph; her daughters Sue Grace and Kristin; and her grandchildren Keith Cox, Cole Dailey, and Elise Barbour.

Kathy earned a B.S.Ed. from the University of Delaware (1965), an M.A.Ed. from Regent University (1988), an Ed.S. in Administration/Special Education from The College of William & Mary (1994), and an Ed.D. from The College of William & Mary (1996).

Kathy began her career at the National Institute for Learning Development (NILD) in the mid-1980's as an NILD Educational Therapist at Norfolk Christian Schools. Kathy ultimately served as NILD Executive Director for over two decades from 1991-2011. She was a respected national and international

speaker and the author of three books.

Her personal joys were many: her faith and family, reading, music, theater, gardening, family reunions, and traveling with those she loved. She relished hearing and telling stories and used humor to navigate life's challenges. Kathy lived with courage, resilience, discipline, and deep faith. She was a servant of God, hopeful, optimistic, family-centered, patriotic, and unfailingly tenacious.

A Celebration of Life will follow on December 13, 2025, at 1:00 p.m., at 816 Kempsville Road, Chesapeake, VA 23320. If you are unable to attend Kathy's Celebration of Life in person, you are warmly welcome to join us online using this link: https://www.churchofthemessiah.org/hopkins