

What you think you are is a belief to be undone.
Foundation for Inner Peace, A Course in Miracles

Gathering Music

† † †

Processional

Welcome

Proclamation

In life and death we belong to God.
Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
we trust in the one triune God,
whom alone we worship and serve.

Reading

***Hymn 625**

"How Great Thou Art"

† † †

Lesson

Matthew 14:13-21

Homily

Special Music

"I am Woman"

Remembrances

What Amma Taught Me
Lisa Simms
Alina Yates

Baptismal Blessing

Special Music

"Take Me Home, Country Roads"

† † †

Prayer of Thanksgiving

***Commendation**

***Hymn 649**

"Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"

***A Living Memorial**

***Credo**

With believers in every time and place,
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
can separate us from the love of God
in Christ Jesus our Lord.

***+Sending 547, v. 3**

*"Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me.
Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.
Here my Spirit's power filled you;
here my tender comfort stilled you.
Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free."*

***Recessional**

**Please stand as you are able*

*Light reception following the Service
in the Fellowship Hall*

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Elise Anne Woods
March 30, 1941 – December 14, 2025

Elise Anne Woods passed away peacefully on December 14, 2025, surrounded by family. She is lovingly remembered by her children, Paul Woods and Julie Yates; their spouses; and her three grandchildren, Alina, Kyle, and Quinn Yates. She is also survived by her sisters, Carole Proebstle and Marie Timm, and their families.

Elise was a devoted mother and grandmother, known to her grandchildren as Amma. She was a nurse, writer, gardener, and advocate for community food access, and she lived her life with honesty, curiosity, and deep care for others.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to a local food bank or farmers market in Elise's honor.

*Be not afraid.
We only start again an ancient journey
long ago begun that but seems new.
We have begun again upon a road we travelled on before
and lost our way a little while.
And now we try again.*
Foundation for Inner Peace, A Course in Miracles

A Celebration Of Life
December 27, 2025, 3 p.m.

Elise Anne Woods
March 30, 1941 • December 14, 2025

Only Love Is Real

The past has passed
The future is never quite here
The present moment is all that there is
And only love is real

Failure is always an option
Denial tempts and turns
Sorrow clamors, anger follows
And yet, only love is real

Breathe, then, and dance
Care not what others may say
Stumble and fall and start again
For only love is real

Fear holds you hostage
Narrowing the mind
And numbing the soul
But through it all, only love is real
And then, when at last you remember
The waters part, the mind releases
You are already forgiven, you always were
Because only love is real

Paul Woods, 2025

SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Shepherdstown, West Virginia
Established 1743

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