

Mary Catherine Ward, a devoted wife, avid learner, and cherished member of our community, peacefully passed away on November 19th, 2023, at the age of 85. Born on March 30th, 1938, in Beaumont, Texas, she leaves behind a legacy of warmth, compassion, and a life dedicated to faith and community.

A member of Wildwood since 2019, Mary Catherine, alongside her beloved husband David, quickly became an integral part of our tight-knit community. Her deep love for studying the Bible led her to actively engage in the Navigators Sunday School Class and participate in Wildwood's Book Club, where she shared her insights and passion for literature.

Beyond her intellectual pursuits, Mary Catherine was a beacon of empathy and support as a Stephen Minister. Her caring nature touched the lives of many, offering solace and companionship during times of need.

We gather to remember and celebrate the extraordinary life of a remarkable woman who touched our hearts and enriched our community with her kindness, wisdom, and unwavering faith.



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Rev. Rhett Ansley, Lead Pastor  
Rev. Dr. Deanna Young, Executive Pastor  
Rev. Janet Stilwell, Care & Connections Pastor  
Rev. Ryan Trushenski, Pastor of Men's Ministry & Missions  
Jim Kritikos, Worship Director

# Mary Catherine Ward



*"...you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God."*

*1 Corinthians 6:11*

March 30, 1938—November 19, 2023

**A Celebration of Life**  
**Mary Catherine Ward**  
**December 2, 2023 | 3:00 P.M.**

**We Gather in Praise and Thanksgiving**

**Prelude**

**Processional Hymn**

*“It is Well”*

**Welcome and Words of Grace**

Rev. Rhett Ansley

**Prayer**

**Solo**

*“Pie Jesu”*  
from Faure’s *Requiem*

Jim Kritikos

**We Proclaim God’s Word**

**Old Testament Lesson**

Psalm 100

Mary Sue Dalzell

**Epistle Reading**

Philippians 2:1-4

Anita Lacy

**Hymn**

*“In the Garden”*

**New Testament Lesson**

Revelation 21:1-7

Kim Mader

**Solo**

“Prayer of St. Francis”

Jim Kritikos

**Gospel Reading**

John 14 (selected verses)

Rev. Ansley

**Sermon**

“For All Creation, Love”

**We Respond in Faith**

**Eulogy**

Chaplain Mark Akers  
Magnolia Fire Department

**Prayers of Commendation**

Rev. Ansley

**The Sacrament of Holy Communion**

Vonda Harvey  
Anita Lacy  
Kim Mader

Debra Henderer  
Dorothy Lee  
Barbara Taylor

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

In Paradisum

Debra Henderer

**Solo**

“The Lord’s Prayer”

Jim Kritikos

**We are Sent Forth in the Promise of Eternal Life**

**Benediction**

**Recessional Hymn**

*“Amazing Grace”*

**Reception following in Hayley Hall**

**Postlude**

**Pallbearers**

Karl Ward, Son of David Ward  
Cole Burk, Firefighter  
Pete Alexiou, Firefighter

Chris Thomas, Firefighter  
Jeff Jackson, Firefighter  
Morgan Ziller, Brother of Mary Catherine Ward