



A Service of Worship in Witness to the Resurrection
and in Thanksgiving for the Life of

Erin Suray Grow Farris

February 27, 1978 (Philadelphia, PA) – November 29, 2025 (Austin, TX)

December 6, 2025
Two o'clock in the afternoon
First Presbyterian Church of Austin

Prelude

Call to Worship *responsively*

Our help is in the name of the Lord who made heaven and earth.

I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord.

**Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live,
and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.**

The inheritance to which we are born

is one that nothing can destroy or spoil or wither.

**As a father has compassion for his children,
so the Lord has compassion for those who fear God.**

As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you, says the Lord.

Prayer

*Hymn No. 726

“Will You Come and Follow Me”

KELVINGROVE

*Prayer of Confession *together*

God of mercy, whose loving-kindness endures forever:

we confess that often we have failed to receive and give love;

to care for others as we care for ourselves;

to forgive and accept forgiveness.

We remember good intentions that were not put into actions;

harsh words that were hurtful;

selfish purposes that caused pain;

persistent pride that would not yield.

We acknowledge our fear in the face of death

and our failure to accept the hope you offer us in Christ.

Gracious God, forgive us and help us to forgive others;

heal us from the pain of self-condemnation;

free us from the burden of failures that cannot be corrected;

renew us with your loving assurance that our sins have been forgiven,

through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.

*Words of Forgiveness

We are not bound by our past mistakes, for God’s grace abounds more than
all our sins or brokenness. God’s forgiveness is from everlasting to everlasting.

Friends, hear and believe the good news of the gospel:

We are saved by grace through faith.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

*Hymn No. 43 vs. 1 & 4

“On Eagle's Wings”

ON EAGLE’S WINGS

A Witness to the Resurrection and Thanksgiving for Erin’s Life

Galatians 5:22-23

Matthew 19:13-15

Proverbs 31:25-26

John 14, selected verses

Solo

“The Lord's My Shepherd”

arr. Craig Courtney

Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

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**

“I'll Fly Away”

***Charge & Benediction**

*Rise in body or in spirit.

Worship Leaders

Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Boone McLean, pastor

David Stith, organ

David Allen, tenor

You are invited to a reception in the Fellowship Hall immediately following the service.

*Contributions in celebration of Erin's life may be made to
First Presbyterian Church Good Samaritan Fund:
Text FPCATX GOODSAM to 73256*

A Christian memorial service does not focus on the feats of humankind, but on the hope of God, on Jesus Christ and his victory over death. Consequently, God's Word is central. The congregation proclaims God's Word not only through the reading of Scripture, but also through the singing of hymns, through an affirmation of faith, and through prayer. Today we gather to worship God. In worship, the reality of Erin's death is confronted; our grief and sorrow are taken seriously; we are comforted by the Holy Spirit; and we celebrate the assurance of victory over death.



Erin Suray Farris, Daughter. Mother. Wife. Teacher. Sister. Friend. A true force of life, Erin passed away peacefully on Saturday, November 29, 2025.

Born on February 27, 1978, in Philadelphia, Erin spent her formative years in San Antonio, Texas. Bubbly and energetic, she was drawn early to theater arts and dance. Throughout middle and high school, she participated in drama club, performed in numerous plays and musicals, and proudly served as the spirited Clark High School mascot. *Go Cougars!*

Erin attended the University of Texas at Austin, studying theater and education. It was there she met the love of her life, Scott Farris; the two married in Hawaii in 2006.

She began her teaching career at Summitt Elementary, then took a brief hiatus to move to Los Angeles, where she excelled as a voice actor. When family – and her passion for teaching – called her back home to Texas, Erin returned to the classroom, where her remarkable performance skills delighted students and colleagues alike. Her character voices brought storytime to life, and her dance background gave her team of first-grade teachers a competitive edge during the annual talent show. For more than 20 years, she was a kind, gifted, and magnetic leader both in and out of the classroom.

Of all her accomplishments, none meant more to her than being a mother. When her daughter Scout was born in 2017, Erin found her greatest joy and the source of her deepest happiness.

Erin found community and faith at First Presbyterian Church of Austin, where she was an active and beloved member. She was a proud Philadelphia Eagles fan, forever keeping things lively at home with her husband, a devoted Steelers fan. Sunday mornings were spent at church and then home to cheer on their teams.

Erin is survived by her devoted husband, Scott Farris; her cherished daughter, Scout Farris; her stepfather, Rey Garza; her father, David Grow III; her brother, David Grow IV (Jenny), and stepsiblings Bill Garza, Rebecca Garza, and Melissa Garza.

Erin is additionally survived by numerous nieces & nephews, loving aunts, uncles, cousins, and countless friends who became family over the course of her rich and wonderful life.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents, Mildred and David Grow Jr., and Madeline and Raymond DuFresne, her niece Brianna Swosinski, and by her loving mother and best friend, Theresa Garza, who surely greeted her in heaven with the most glorious hug.



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