

**A Celebration and Thanksgiving to God  
for the  
Life of Mae Reynolds Holoman**

**May 24, 2025**



**A Service of Witness to the Resurrection  
First Presbyterian Church of Portsmouth, Virginia**

## Order of Worship

Prelude

Welcome

Choral Anthem

“Sweet Hour of Prayer”

Opening Prayer

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Hymn of Praise #625

“How Great Thou Art”

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**Loving God, help us.  
When we have run away, when we have turned our backs on Love,  
when we have sought immediate satisfaction and not long-term healing, help us.**

**Merciful God, forgive us.  
When we have been selfish, when we have been mean,  
when we have closed our ears to the cries of others, forgive us.**

**Powerful God, heal us. When we are so broken we cannot move,  
when we don't know how to stem the bleeding of our wounds,  
when we are too ashamed to seek community, heal us.**

**Give us the courage, the strength, and the hope to accept Your grace  
and hear Your call in Christ. Amen.**

Assurance of Forgiveness

...Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel  
**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

Response

**Rejoice, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King adore  
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing, and triumph evermore  
Lift up your heart; lift up your voice!  
Rejoice, again, I say Rejoice!**

Lessons from the Scriptures

The Psalter  
The Hebrew Scriptures

Psalm 37:1-6  
Isaiah 41:8-10

Thank you for coming to celebrate Mae's life and ministry. Immediately following the service, you are all invited to join the family at Nancy and Steve Frazier's home at 4102 Faigle Road in Portsmouth.

## In Remembrance

Mae Reynolds Holoman, age 91 of Portsmouth, Virginia, passed away peacefully at home on Sunday, May 11. She was a Godly partner who embodied a joyful, welcoming spirit. She lived a life grounded in faith, service, and boundless love for others.

Mae was born in Critz, Virginia on May 4, 1934, to the late Hassie T. Reynolds and Mildred Fulcher Reynolds. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by five sisters, Ivis Hutcheson, Mary Irvine Fasano, Elva Burgchardt, Dae Williams, Sue Smart, and her brother, Buddy Reynolds. After graduating from high school, she traveled to Boston to live with her sister and train as a dental assistant. She continued her hygienist practice when she returned to Martinsville, VA.

Mae married William Chreston Holoman, from Raleigh, NC. On June 7 of this year, they would have celebrated their sixty-seventh wedding anniversary. After their wedding, the two moved to Kingsport, Tennessee, where Chreston worked as a chemical engineer for Tennessee Eastman Kodak.

Sensing God's call to ministry, they moved to Wake Forest, NC., where Chreston attended Southeastern Baptist Seminary. Their first call was to Branchville Baptist Church in Branchville, VA., later moving to Taylor Road Baptist Church in Chesapeake, VA. In 1980, they founded Emmaus Foursquare Gospel Church in Chesapeake, VA. In 1985, Mae was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Ministry by Jacksonville Seminary in Florida.

She is survived by her husband: William Chreston Holoman; three daughters: Nancy Frazier (Steve), Rosemary Williams (Neal), and Ann Osborne (Steve); eight grandchildren: Kelsey Smith (Logan), Chase Williams (Jess), Logan Williams, Lauren Yount (Phillip), Steve Osborne, Ashely Mae Osborne, Claire Frazier, and Barron Frazier (Laura); nine great-grandchildren; and her sister, Drue Hurd.

Mae's legacy of faith is captured in her favorite and often-quoted passage of Scripture from Psalm 37:4: "Delight yourself in the Lord and He will give you the desires of your heart." Her unwavering support, spiritual strength, and deep compassion made her a cornerstone of the church community and a maternal figure to many beyond her own family.

She was quick to listen and full of compassion. Her commitment to intercession impacted many, many lives. She made it her mission to care for people emotionally and spiritually. Her warmth and open heart made everyone feel like family.

She sought to align her will with God's and, in so doing, knew a deeper assurance; an assurance that reinforced the knowledge of God's abiding presence in every situation. Mae leaves behind a lifetime of spiritual strength that continues to impact us all.