

CELEBRATION OF LIFE HYMN SING 2024

PRELUDE I Need Thee Every Hour Robert Lowry, Arr. Frank Asper

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND

We acknowledge this day,
that we gather for worship on the traditional territories of the
Saugeen Ojibway,
**and the other indigenous peoples who preceded them – the
original nations of this land –**
and we acknowledge, with respect, their history, their
spirituality, and their culture.

MUSICAL INTROIT Fairest Lord Jesus German Air, Arr. Frank Asper

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

O God, as light comes from this candle,
May the blessing of Jesus Christ come to us,
Warming our hearts and brightening our way.
May this light remind us that God is fully and completely with us now
and throughout the day.

1. HYMN VU #395 Come In, Come In and Sit Down (verses 1-3)

| <u>IN MEMORY OF</u> | <u>SPONSORED BY</u> |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Husband: Ken Willoughby | Pat Porter |
| Parents: Evelyn & Kelvin Henderson | |
| Brother: Ronald Henderson | |
| Norman, Anne & Andrew Perry | Emily Perry |

LIGHTING OF THE REMEMBRANCE CANDLE

We light this candle in remembrance of all those who have passed
before us, some named and some not, and to remind us to celebrate
the life they shared with us. These people are more than a memory.
They are a living presence among us!

READING: LARRY AND HIS FRIENDSHIP PLOT

Larry has a friendship plot. It's not a secret plan to get more friends. No, it's a garden plot. It's a very special place in his garden where all the plants were donated by friends or were cuttings from their gardens. They are a real mish-mash of types (just like Larry's friends) and they flower at all different times of the year. Some are recent donations but most of them came from friends and relatives who have now passed away. So it is like a "friendship/memorial" garden. Every flower has a story connected to it and Larry can tell you each story and who the flower represents. It is a great way for him to remember all his relatives and friends. It is a place of peace for him and would be a good suggestion for anyone with a garden.

2. HYMN: In The Garden (verses 1-3)

| <u>IN MEMORY OF</u> | <u>SPONSORED BY</u> |
|---|----------------------------|
| Our parents Harold & Ethel Jennings, and Alfred & Marian Henry | Bev & Pat Jennings |
| Husband: Glen Holmes Brother: Mervyn Rooke | Elaine Holmes |

CALL TO WORSHIP *From Beth Merrill Neel's blog, "Hold Fast to What is Good".*

Used with permission.

Welcome this day to the house of our God.

We are greeted in peace and in love.

Welcome this day to the worship of our Creator.

We worship in hope and with grace.

Welcome this day to our community of faith,

where we are sisters and brothers in Christ.

Come! We are delighted that you are here!

We are here to sing, to pray, to greet, to wonder and to give thanks.

So let us now worship God.

Amen

3. HYMN MV #1 All Are Welcome (Let us Build a House)
(vs. 1, 2 and 5)

| <u>IN MEMORY OF</u> | <u>SPONSORED BY</u> |
|--|----------------------------|
| Husband: John Buffo Parents: Bert & Hazel Bell Grandparents: Edwin & Elizabeth Bell and Thomas & Bertha Donaldson | Marilynn Buffo |
| Karen Nancekivell, and cousins Gord Moulton Don Porter | Jack Nancekivell |

PRAYER OF APPROACH

God, you call us to lives of abundant living,
you call us to lives of love.

Today, we do this through the sharing of names,
some of whom are written here, some of whom are not.

All, who are remembered,
fill us with tender thoughts and trusted feelings.

Their memory, now come to mind,
helps us to love ourselves, others and you better.

They create in us a powerful desire to worship,
to offer both praise and prayer.

Receive the worship, which we create in this hour.

Receive it and hallow it.

We ask this in Jesus name. Amen

4. HYMN VU #574 How Great Thou Art (verses 1-3)

| <u>IN MEMORY OF</u> | <u>SPONSORED BY</u> |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| Daughter: Elizabeth Cuddy Gene Zarubick | Louise Currie Jim & Judy Zarubick |

A Prayer For You

I said a prayer for you today
And know God must have heard
I felt the answer in my heart
Although he spoke no word
I didn't ask for wealth or fame
I knew you wouldn't mind
I asked him to send treasures
Of a far more lasting kind
I asked that he'd be near you
At the start of each new day
To grant you health and blessings
And friends to share your way
I asked for happiness for you
In all things great and small
But it was for his loving care
I prayed for most of all.
Author Unknown

THE LORD'S PRAYER (say together)

And now let us all pray together the prayer which Jesus taught us, the Lord's Prayer.

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of Christ be with you

And also with you.

5. HYMN VU #577 I've Got Peace Like a River **(verses 1-3)**

IN MEMORY OF

Our Son Paul Douglas Cox

**My husband: Murray Johnson
Parents: Cliff and Elizabeth Geddes**

SPONSORED BY

Lee and Sharon Cox

Jean Johnson

SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 40:28 - 31 (New Revised Standard Version)

Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

6. HYMN VU#575 I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me (verses 1-3)

IM MEMORY OF

SPONSORED BY

Ron Smith

Ralph & Mary-Ann Knowles

Husband: Wib Burnside

Helen Burnside

Brother: Alex McDonald

Brother-in-law: John Burnside

SHARING TIME

Donna Mowry

7. HYMN VU #675 Will Your Anchor Hold? (verses 1-3)

IN MEMORY OF

SPONSORED BY

Good Friends Dorothy Curtis, Josie Viles, Pauline Whelan, Kathleen Dunn and Christopher Patrick Guiry

Jackie Clements

Husband: Ron Elliott

Sheila Elliott

Friends: Stu Mowry and Bob Hicks

Brother-in-law: Bob Elliott

Nephew: Randy Hannon

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Often our footsteps do not follow your path of peace. Forgive us, Holy God. Grant us the wisdom and strength to change our ways; so that we may live as your faithful ambassadors of the Good News.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God takes notice of us.

When we confess our failure and seek forgiveness, God responds.

God responds immediately.

God says, "It is past. Now do what you know is right and receive peace."

8. HYMN VU #639 One More Step Along The World I Go (verses 1-3)

| <u>IN MEMORY OF</u> | <u>SPONSORED BY</u> |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| Don Maus | Sue Maus |
| Diana Stephens | Gerry Stephens |

READING: WHAT IS DYING by Rev. Luther F. Beecher

Since we are located on the shore of Lake Huron, I felt this reading was appropriate for our location.

I am standing at the seashore. A ship at my side spreads her white sails to the morning breeze and starts for the blue ocean. She is an object of beauty and strength. I stand and watch her until at length she hangs like a speck of white cloud, just where the sea and the sky come to mingle with each other. Then someone at my side says: "There, she is gone!" – "GONE WHERE?" Gone from my sight. That is all. She is just as large in mast and hull and spar as she was

when she left my side. Her diminished size is in me, not in her. And just at the moment when someone at my side says: "There, she is gone!", there are other eyes watching her coming, and other voices ready to take up the glad shout: "Here she comes! Here she comes!"

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 100 (New Revised Standard Version)

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing. Know that the Lord is God. It is he that made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him, bless his name. For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

**DOXOLOGY Now Thank We All Our God
(VU#236 Verse 3 only)**

9. HYMN VU #497 Nearer, My God, To Thee (verses 1-3)

| <u>IN MEMORY OF</u> | <u>SPONSORED BY</u> |
|---|--------------------------------|
| Our Parents | Don & Linda Merritt |
| Father to Krista, Grandfather to Lydia & Morgan: Arnold (Pete)McKeeman | Krista Ritchie |
| Aunt to Krista: Clara Surridge | |

READING: MEMORIAL POEM by M. Lancaster

We share the road of Life
with ones that we hold dear
and if it were in our power
we'd always keep them near.

For, they help us navigate
the obstacles in Life
and it makes the Journey easier
when they are walking by our side

And, though the way is lonelier
when we no longer hear their step –
Remember, they still share our road,
they've just traveled on ahead.

10. HYMN MV #154 Deep in Our Hearts (verses 1-3)

IN MEMORY OF

Helen & Ray Butcher,
Joan & Wilf Brown
Betty & Bill Bowman

Gregg McClelland

SPONSORED BY

Howard & Marion Brown

Friday Morning Coffee Crew
Howard Brown, Lee Cox, Ron
Harris, Dan Roy & Jim Zarubick

MEMORIAL LITANY

Father, as we are gathered here today to remember our loved ones, we ask you to send your Holy Spirit into our lives.

LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYERS.

Open our EYES, to see the needs of the people around us, especially those who still have grief in their souls.

LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYERS.

Open our EARS, to hear what you are saying to us in the things that happen to us and through the people who have been and continue to be an influence on our lives.

LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYERS.

Open our HANDS, to do our work well, to help when help is needed and to hold the torch of our Christian ancestors high.

LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYERS.

Open our LIPS, to tell the good news and bring comfort, happiness and laughter to other people as our friends in Christ did for us.

LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYERS.

Open our HEARTS, to love you and everyone around us as You have loved us.

LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYERS. Amen

11. HYMN VU #266 Amazing Grace (verses 1-3)

| <u>IN MEMORY OF</u> | <u>SPONSORED BY</u> |
|---|-----------------------------|
| Parents: Whitney and Marilyn Stevens | Melinda Smegal |
| Ron Smith | Lee & Sharon Cox |

READING – AN INTERESTING FUNERAL

One day the employees of a company arrived at their office building and saw a sign on the main door which said, “Yesterday, the person who has been hindering your growth in this company passed away. We invite you to join the funeral set up in the gym”. They were curious to know who that person was. Everyone thought – who is this

person who was hindering my growth. One by one, they reached the coffin and looked inside and became utterly speechless. They stood in shock and silence, as if someone had touched the deepest part of their soul. There in the coffin was a mirror, everyone who looked in saw themselves. The sign next to the mirror said, "There is only one person who is capable of setting limits to your growth and IT IS YOU." Your life changes when YOU change, when you go beyond your limiting beliefs. It's the way you face life itself that makes the difference.

Author Unknown

12. HYMN VU #574 Come Let Us Sing of a Wonderful Love (verses 1-3)

IN MEMORY OF

SPONSORED BY

**My Siblings: Audrey Weiss, Betty Moulton
and Clayton Bell**

Marilynn Buffo

**Howard & Doris Phillips,
Neil & Vera McCannel**

John & Mary Phillips

OFFERING PRAYER

Lord, we are thankful for your faithfulness. Thank you that we can always trust in you. You are an abundant God and out of your great mercy, you have given us so much. We offer our gifts (our time, talent and treasure) to continue to share your love in our church, our community and the world. Please now take our gifts and use them for your kingdom and your glory. We ask all this in Jesus' name. Amen.

13. HYMN This is My Father's World (verses 1-3)

IN MEMORY OF

SPONSORED BY

**Husband: Gregg McClelland
Father & Mother: Harold and Mildred Fenton**

Dotty McClelland

**Our parents:
Lou and Paul, Helen and Conrad,
And friends: Glen, Gregg & Karen**

Rad & Debbie Michielson

PRAYER

Dear Loving Father, in the name of our Lord Jesus, thank you for allowing us to be here today as we hold this Celebration of Life Service. This day revives in us memories of loved ones who are no more. What happiness we shared when they walked among us. The links of life are broken but the links of love and longing cannot break. And we remember as well, the members who but yesterday were part of our congregation and community. Their souls are bound up in ours forever. We give you thanks that they now live and reign with you. The time has come for us to leave and depart to our homes. We ask that you take care of us and keep us in good health so that we can continue glorifying you. Always be with us as you have promised, in the name of our Lord Jesus, we pray. Amen

14. HYMN Thine is the Glory (verses 1-3)

IN MEMORY OF

SPONSORED BY

Stuart Mowry and Ron Smith

Donna Mowry

**Joan Leaning, Ron Smith,
and Barb & Bob Forrest**

Sarah MacKenzie

BENEDICTION AND COMMISSIONING – An Irish Blessing

May the road rise to meet you.

May the wind be always at your back.

May the sun shine warm upon your face,

and rains fall soft upon your fields,

and until we meet again,

may God hold you in the palm of his hand.

(Go now in Peace)

SONG OF COMMITMENT

I Have Called You By Your Name MV #161 verse 4

POSTLUDE

God Be With You

William Gould Tomen Arr. Frank W. Asper