



Celebration of Life and Witness to the Resurrection



Ellen Karen Vassey
July 13, 1936 ~ June 5, 2025



Prelude

Prelude en Sol majeur
G.F. Haendel
Dr. Grace Park, Pianist

Welcome

Pastor Jim Szeyller

Opening Sentences

Psalm 46: 1

¹God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.

John 11: 25, 26

²⁵Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

Romans 6: 3 - 5

³ Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. ⁵ For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.

Opening Prayer

Hymn

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore

Henry Van Dyke & Ludwig van Beethoven
#20

*Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee,
Opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
Drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day!*

*All Thy works with joy surround Thee,
Earth and heaven reflect Thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around Thee,
Center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Flowery meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain
Call us to rejoice in Thee.*

*Thou art giving and forgiving,
Ever blessing, ever blest,
Wellspring of the joy of living,
Ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother,
All who live in love are Thine;
Teach us how to love each other,
Lift us to the joy divine.*

First Lesson

Romans 8: 31 – 39

Pew Bible, pp. 158 - 159

³¹What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³²He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. ³⁵Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered." ³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Remembrances of Family

Allison Vassey
Jean Shelton

Musical Interlude

It Is Well With My Soul
Horatio Spafford and Philip Bliss

Second Lesson

John 14: 25 - 27
Pew Bible p. 109

²⁵"I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. ²⁷Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.

Homily

Choir Anthem

The Prayer with Lead Us, Lord

Arr. by Tom Fettke
LNPC Chancel Choir

We pray You'll be our eyes
and watch us where we go,
And teach us to be wise in times when we don't know.
Let this be our prayer when we lose our way.
Lead us to a place, guide us with Your grace
To a place where we'll be safe.

We pray we'll find Your light and hold it in our hearts
As darkness falls each night remind us where You are.
Let this be our prayer, when shadows fill our day.
Lead us to a place, guide us with Your grace.
Give us faith so we'll be safe.

Lead us Lord, lead us in Your righteousness;
Make your way plain for us to see.
Lead us Lord, lead us in Your righteousness;
Make your way plain for us to see.

We pray we'll find Your light, and hold it in our hearts
As darkness falls each night, remind us where You are.
Let this be our prayer, just like every child
Needs to find a place, guide us with Your grace
Give us faith so we'll be safe.

Lead us to a place, guide us with Your grace.
To a place where we'll be safe.
Lead us Lord.

Pastoral Prayer & 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.*

Closing Hymn

How Great Thou Art

Stuart K. Hine
#21 (vv. 1, 3, 4)

*O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works Thy hands have made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy pow'r thru-out the universe displayed!*

*Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee;
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee;
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!*

*And when I think that God, His Son not sparing,
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in,
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin.*

*Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee;
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee;
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!*

*When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim, my God, how great Thou art!*

*Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee;
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee;
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!*

Benediction

Postlude

I Need Thee Every Hour & How Great Thou Art Medley

Justin K. Reeve

Ellen



KAREN

(Williams) Vassey was born July 13, 1936 in Teague Texas, to Floyd and Lila Williams and grew up in the small Texas town of Mexia, Texas. After graduating High School in 1954, Karen attended North Texas State College studying Journalism. She later transferred to Texas Wesleyan University in Fort Worth and changed to a social studies major. Karens stellar GPA allowed her to complete a BA in three years.

Karen married Don Burton Vassey in May of 1957. Three children were born during the twenty-year marriage. Valerie Kay, June 12, 1959; Todd Burton April 3, 1962 and Allison Suzanne, August 11, 1964.

The family suffered the ultimate sadness in May of 1963 when Valerie died of Acute Myelogenous Leukemia after one year of intensive medical intervention.

Karen held a number of social work positions including the American Red Cross and County Mental Health centers. In 1977 Karen changed careers and joined Bristol Myers in pharmaceutical sales. Career advancement took her to Indiana, Fort Worth, Tx., and finally to Southern California where she retired as a Regional Sales Director in 1994. But she could not remain idle and returned to her first love, social work. A post-retirement association with United Way was a perfect five-year transition to full retirement and years of world travel. That travel took her to all seven continents. She was blessed to meet Claire Burrill, they traveled on 23 journeys including the holy land & Egypt, Russia, Antarctica, East Africa, Australia-New Zealand and numerous other trips to Europe.

Our Family thanks the entire LNPC family for the all the years of love and support for our mother, sister, and aunt.



Thank you for joining us to celebrate
Karen's life. The family deeply
appreciates your love and prayers.

We look forward to greeting you at the
Reception in Gard Hall following the service.

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