

A Celebration of life in Jesus Christ in Eleanor Marie Engeman McNair

June 9, 1927 -- February 1, 2025

Prelude "Largo" by G.F. Handel Janice Barnett

*Call to Worship:

Our help is in the name of the Lord who made heaven and earth. God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in times of trouble. Therefore we will not fear.

I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God.

*Hymn: 1 "Holy, Holy, Holy"

*Prayer of Confession: "Let us now ask God to cleanse our hearts, to redeem our memories, and to renew our confidence in the goodness of God."

Almighty and most merciful Father; we have strayed from Your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much our own desires. We have offended Your holy laws. We have not done things we ought to have done; we have done things we ought not to have done. Lord, have mercy upon us. Restore those who are penitent, according to Your promises to us in Christ Jesus our Lord. Grant, O most merciful Father, for Christ's sake; that we may hereafter live godly, righteous and sober lives, to the glory of Your holy Name. Amen.

*Words of Grace:

Hear the good news! Who is in the position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ dies for us; Christ rose for us; Christ reigns in power for us; Christ prays for us. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. Amen.

Hymn: 203

"Jesu, Jesu, Fill us with Your Love"

Remembrances about Eleanor

"To live in the hearts of those we leave behind is not to die." --William Campbell

Special Music: "Children of the Heavenly Father" --The McNair Family Singers

Unison Prayer: **Holy God, Lord of life and death, You made us in Your image and hold us in Your care. We thank you for Your servant, Eleanor, for the gift of her life, and for the love and mercy she received from You and gave to us. Especially we praise You for Your love in Jesus Christ, who died and rose from the grave to free us from evil and give us eternal life. Look graciously on those who mourn, that casting all our cares on You, we may know the consolation of Your love. Lead us by Your Holy Spirit in the strength of sure hope, that we may live in favor with You, and in gracious love with all. We continue our prayer as Jesus taught, "Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name..."**

New Testament reading: Philippians 3:7-14, 20-21 David McNair

Whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ and be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith. I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of His resurrection and participation in His sufferings, becoming like Him in His death, and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus...²⁰ For our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, who, by the power that enables Him to bring everything under His control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like His glorious body.

Hymn: 687

"Our God, Our Help in Ages Past"

Old Testament Reading:

Psalms 103

Brad Arnold

Let all that I am praise the LORD; with my whole heart, I will praise His holy name. Let all I am praise the LORD; may I never forget the good things He does for me. He forgives all my sins and heals all my diseases. He redeems me from death and crowns me with love and tender mercies. He fills my life with good things. My youth is renewed like the eagle's!

⁶ The LORD gives righteousness and justice to all who are treated unfairly. He revealed His character to Moses and His deeds to the people of Israel. The LORD is compassionate and merciful, slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love. He will not constantly accuse us, nor remain angry forever. He does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. For His unfailing love toward those who fear Him is as great as the height of the heavens above the earth. He has removed our sins as far from us as the east is from the west.

¹³ The LORD is like a father to His children, tender and compassionate to those who fear Him. For He knows how weak we are; He remembers we are only dust. Our days on earth are like grass; like wildflowers, we bloom and die. The wind blows, and we are gone—as though we had never been here. But the love of the LORD remains forever with those who fear Him. His salvation extends to the children's children of those who are faithful to His covenant, of those who obey His commandments! The LORD has made the heavens his throne; from there He rules over everything.

²⁰ Praise the LORD, you angels, you mighty ones who carry out His plans, listening for each of His commands. Yes, praise the LORD, you armies of angels who serve Him and do His will! Praise the LORD, everything He has created, everything in all His kingdom. Let all that I am praise the LORD.

Sermon

*Hymn: 463

"How Firm a Foundation"

*Benediction: May God in endless mercy bring the whole church, the living and the departed, to a joyful resurrection, in the fulfillment of the eternal kingdom. Amen.

*Postlude: "For All the Saints" arranged by Wilbur Held

** Please Stand as You Are Able.*