

A Celebration of Life and
Witness to the Resurrection

Valden F. Farnham



June 16, 1923 - January 17, 2021

June 12, 2021 - 11:00 am



PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

- The music of the prelude is a gift to us as we gather.
- If you speak, please do so softly so all can listen and prepare for worship.

Prelude

*Silver Threads Among the Gold
Because
How Great Thou Art*

Welcome and Opening Prayer

Pastor Dave

Hymn

Amazing Grace

Garald and Mark Farnham

1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

now am found; was blind, but now I see.
 grace ap - pear the hour, I first be - lieved!
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt., sts. 1–4; anonymous, st. 5
 Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1851–1921, alt.

Reading

En Voyage By Carlyle Emery

Gerald Farnham

There's a ship sailing on to the harbor,
 To a haven of comfort and rest;
 It's a ship of God's fashion and making,
 And its voyage by God will be blest.
 It departed with silence and beauty,
 With the Captain, God, in command;
 As with dignity truly majestic
 It sailed out of sight of all land.

There will always be clear skies above it;
 There will always be calmness below;
 There will never be storms to harass it,
 For our God is on it, you know,
 And God's wisdom will carry it safely
 To the port of God's infinite peace,
 Where the light of God's love will protect it
 With a blessing that never will cease.

You have watched it sail onward and outward,
With a tear of regret in your eye,
For a loved one was sailing upon it,
And there's grief when you're saying goodbye.
But your tears would be tears of rejoicing,
And your heart would be happy and free,
If you could look for only a moment
On that ship that is sailing the sea.

For the one you have loved is at leisure,
With no worry or trouble or care;
There's contentment beyond understanding,
In the way God's passengers fare.
And you'd know from your own observation
That the sailing was joyful—not grim,
For it means a new life and new living,
And a sweet, closer contact with Him.

Oh, the solace there is in the knowledge,
Life is life and it always will be,
And it's simply a change of direction
When we sail on God's ship out to sea.
And the tears that we shed for our loved one
Are in truth shed for us left behind,
For it hurts to give up to God,
Though we know God is gentle and kind.

So believe in God's great and good wisdom,
Trust in God, as you patiently wait:
On this ship God is ever the pilot,
And the one you have loved is the mate.

Special Music

Genealogy Song

Mark, Travis, and Jenna Farnham

Spoken Reflections

Nathan Wilkinson

Hymn

Precious Lord



1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,
2 When my way grows . . drear, pre-cious Lord, lin - ger near,
3 When the dark - ness ap - pears and the night draws . . near,



I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
when my life is . . . al - most . . gone,
and the day is . . . past and . . . gone,



Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light.
hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall.
at the riv - er I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand.



Take my hand, pre-cious Lord, lead me home.

Text: Thomas A. Dorsey, 1899–1993
Music: George N. Allen, 1812–1877, adapt. Thomas A. Dorsey
Text and music © 1938, 1966 Unichappell Music Inc., admin. Hal Leonard Corp.

PRECIOUS LORD
Irregular

Lord's Prayer

Pastor Dave

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Closing Hymn

God Be with You Till We Meet Again

1 God be with you till we meet a - gain; by good coun - sels guide, up - hold you,
 2 God be with you till we meet a - gain; ho - ly wings se - cure - ly hide you,
 3 God be with you till we meet a - gain; when life's per - ils thick con - found you,

with a shep - herd's care en - fold you;
 dai - ly man - na still pro - vide you; God be with you till we meet a - gain.
 put un - fail - ing arms a - round you;

Refrain

Till we meet, till we meet, till we
 till we meet, till we meet a - gain,

meet at Je - sus' feet; till we meet, till we
 till we meet, till we meet, till we

meet, God be with you till we meet a - gain.
meet a - gain,

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "God Be With You". It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff for the vocal line and a bass clef staff for the piano accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the notes. The music is in a simple, hymn-like style with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature (C).

Text: Jeremiah E. Rankin, 1828–1904
Music: GOD BE WITH YOU, William G. Tomer, 1833–1896

Committal and Blessing

Postlude

Service at Forest Lawn Cemetery immediately following

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Valden F. Farnham will be remembered as a caring father, grandfather, great grandfather, and devoted husband for 71 years to his wife Marge. A retired civil engineer and surveyor, he had major roles in the design and construction of the Toledo Airport, the Ohio Turnpike, interstate highways, and numerous other land development projects throughout his career. Many will also remember him as a prolific storyteller who had a keen memory for dates and names.

He enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1943 and was deployed with the 258th Combat Engineer Battalion to Central Europe, participating in the Battle of the Bulge and the crossing of the Rhine River south of Wesel, Germany, and ultimately earning two bronze stars. He married Margaret (Marge) Oram on June 28, 1947, and earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Toledo in 1948.

Val worked as a surveyor and design engineer on the Ohio Turnpike, before joining the engineering firm responsible for the design of the Toledo Express Airport. In 1958, he and colleague John Wirries established Farnham, Wirries, and Berning Civil Engineers and Surveyors, specializing in all fields of surveying and land development. They designed many subdivisions in the Toledo area and Southeast Michigan, and in the 1960s his firm became involved in the development of man-made lakes, including Apple Valley in Central Ohio.

In retirement, Val became interested in genealogy and spent three years researching his family history. An exhaustive search with his son, Gary, culminated in a 400-page Farnham history dating to pre-1600. In 2009, he completed and published his memoir *Just a While Ago*. He was a life-long Detroit Tigers fan and remembered listening to their games on his family's Atwater Kent radio. He also cheered for the Michigan Wolverines. A long-time member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Toledo, he spent a number of years as head chef of the monthly meals prepared for the St. Paul's men's group.

He was a skillful bowler and once bowled a 300-game as part of a Toledo men's league. Val and Marge were avid bridge players and played in numerous bridge groups over the years, including Redeemer's bridge group. He also enjoyed their twice-weekly games at the Gahanna Senior Center. He was an active member of Redeemer, attending the weekly Bible study whenever he could. His wife preceded him in death in 2018. He is survived by his children, Garald (Nancy) of New York City; Valerie (Tom) Wilkinson of Westerville; Bruce (Dianna) of Weld, Maine; Mark (Lisa) of Charleston, South Carolina; and Margaret (Maureen Callahan) of Columbus; nine grandchildren and 19 great grandchildren.

Memorial donations may be made to Redeemer Lutheran Church.