



A Reconciling in Christ congregation,  
celebrating the diversity of God's children  
and fostering understanding  
and healing in community



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**A Celebration of Life and  
Witness to the Resurrection of  
Bernice Stewart  
February 25, 1949 – August 6, 2021**



**August 19, 2021 + 10:00 am**

Followers of Jesus, sharing God's love with all...  
*an adventure for life!*



# **THE ORDER OF WORSHIP**

## **Welcome and Opening Prayer**

## **Bible Readings**

### **Psalms 23**

Charles E. Diggs IV

The LORD is my shepherd;  
I shall not be in want.

The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures  
and leads me beside still waters.

You restore my soul, O LORD,  
and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear  
no evil;

for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

### **John 14:1-6**

Charles E. Diggs IV

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also.

And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.



## **Pastor's Reflections**

### **Reflections of Family and Friends**

#### **Musical Reflection—It Is Well with My Soul**

Kathy Rapp

## **Prayers**

We join together to pray as our Lord taught us:

### **Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

#### **Poem—If I Should Go** *by Joyce Grenfell* Damon and Dereck Stewart

I thought of you today, but this is nothing new.  
I thought about you yesterday and days before that too.  
I think of you in silence, I often speak your name  
All I have are memories and your picture in a frame  
Your memory is a keepsake from which I'll never part.  
God has you in his arms, I have you in my heart.  
We love you, Damon and Dereck

#### **Solo—His Eye Is on the Sparrow**

Connie Criswell

## **The Commendation**



## Closing Hymn

## *Soon and Very Soon*



- 1 Soon and ver - y soon
- 2 No more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,
- 3 No more dy - in' there,
- 4 Soon and ver - y soon



soon and ver - y soon  
no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,  
no more dy - in' there,  
soon and ver - y soon



soon and ver - y soon  
no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King.  
no more dy - in' there,  
soon and ver - y soon



Hal-le - lu - jah, hal-le - lu - jah, we're goin' to see the King!

*Coda after stanza 4*

Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu -

jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah.

Text: Andraé Crouch, b. 1945

Music: VERY SOON, Andraé Crouch

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**Interment at Forest Lawn Cemetery immediately following  
service**



On Friday, August 6, 2021, Bernice Stewart, Loving Mother, Awesome Aunt, Favorite Cousin and beloved friend to many, went home to be with the Lord at the age 72.

Bernice was born February 25, 1949 in Columbus, Ohio to Rudolph Sr and Ruth Fadis. She received her diploma from Linden McKinley H.S. Bernice studied Business Data Process/Computer Science at Columbus State Community College class of 1972 and Capital University class of 1977. She retired from AT&T which later became Lucent Technologies. On October 28, 1972 she married Donald Stewart and they raised two sons, Damon and Dereck.

Bernice had a passion for family and was full of energy. She also loved to travel. She combined these hobbies and visited family on her travels and was often the go to person for questions regarding family history. Bernice was usually found at celebrations near and far with a smile. She was known for informing the guest of honor, gifts would be given after she had tasted the cake. She brightened up a room whenever she walked in with her bright personality and always made her presence known.

She also loved watching movies and getting a great deal. She could often be found taking advantage of a perk offer by her membership in the Movie Watchers Club. She was very generous and often shared her movie passes with family. She made sure every great niece and nephew knew her and created wonderful memories with them by taking them on often their first trip to Build a Bear.

Bernice has always been an active member in her church, real estate, lifetime fitness center and the many activities she participated in. She made many friendships along the way. She was usually on the go from one event to another. She was very supportive and showed up to every invitation she could, from school plays, dance recitals, the list goes on and on.

Bernice was extremely loving and her energetic spirit was contagious. We appreciate the time the Lord let us have her. She will always be remembered with a smile as she was the reason for plenty of those. The positivity she brought with her will remain in our heart and thoughts.

Bernice was preceded in death by her husband, Don, her father Rudolph Senior and mother, Ruth Fadis, her sister Loretta Hardesty and her brother Rudolph Fadis, Jr. She is survived by her sons Damon and Dereck, her brother Norman (Barbara) Fadis, nieces, nephews, many cousins, and several friends.







## **WORSHIP LEADERS**

**Pastor:** Julianne Smeck, Hope Lutheran Church

**Organist:** Kathy Rapp

**Reader:** Charles E. Diggs IV

**Soloist:** Connie Criswell

**Pall Bearers:** Damon Stewart, Dereck Stewart, Charles E. Diggs IV, Seikou Fadis, Romelle Fadis, Raymond Fadis, Vincent Fadis, Norman J. Fadis

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A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America