



Karl Eric Hasselriis

August 3, 1951 – November 18, 2021



“Grieve not...
nor speak of me with tears...
but laugh and talk of me...
as though I were beside you.
I loved you so...
‘twas Heaven here with you.”

I want this to be a place
where we can touch and be touched
by the utterly,
the unmistakably sacred –
the breath in all breathing,
the light in all seeing,
the fire in every righteous anger,
the resonance in deep silence,
the love which graces and ennobles all loves,
the hospitality which bids a welcome
to each of our returnings –
and grieves a little
at each of our leavings.

The unmistakably sacred
which precedes all of our singing;
the sighing which, when we are awake,
calls us home to ourselves,
where in our blood and bones
the body of God dwells.

-- Joseph H. Gilmore

The Bell is Rung

Prelude

Sean Cameron, Music Director

“Requiem VI. The Lord is My Shepherd”
by John Rutter

From Scripture Matthew 17, The Inclusive Bible

“Six days later, Jesus took Peter, James and John up on a high mountain to be alone with him. And before their eyes, Jesus was transfigured—his face becoming as dazzling as the sun and his clothes as radiant as light.”

Later, when the apparition had passed...

“Jesus came toward them and touched them, saying, ‘Get up! Don’t be afraid.’ When they looked up, they did not see anyone but Jesus.”

Hymn

Bring Many Names #11

Bring many names, beautiful and good,
celebrate in parable and story, holiness and glory,
living, loving God.

Hail and Hosanna! Bring many names.

Strong Guardian God, working night and day,
planning all the wonders of creation
setting each equation, genius at play:
Hail and Hosanna, strong Guardian God.

Ever growing God, eager on the move,
saying no to false hood and unkindness,
crying out for justice, giving all you have:
Hail and Hosanna, ever growing God.

Great, living God, never fully known,
joyful darkness far beyond our seeing,
closer yet than breathing,
every lasting home:
Hail and Hosanna, great living God.

Eulogy

Seth Abrams
Joshua Esposito

Musical Offering

How Does a Moment Last Forever?
from Beauty and the Beast

Tove Abrams Hasselriis

“Karl” ~ A Video

Remembering Karl

“Life of Karl!” *Written by Carol Reid*
Read by Tove Abrams Hasselriis

followed by

Your Remembrances & Stories

The Life of Karl by Carol Reid

Born into an amazing Danish family with a heritage of centuries of free thinkers, artists, musicians, adventurers, and at least one privateer who was always winked at in the ritual recitation of grace at the Hasselriis holiday table, the beautiful golden-haired boy with rose-blushed cheeks and bluest blue eyes when I first met him in 1962, Karl grew up in that fertile ground to become what can only be described as Larger Than Life itself. Cellist, singer, artist, master gardener, culinary explorer, spinner of straw into gold, bon vivant. The world was his favorite oyster and he drew friends to him like a giant magnet. But his greatest work of art was the life he created with his beloved forever partner and husband, soulmate Frank. Karl embodied love. He had a fierce passion for life.

For Karl, brilliant super nova, there were certainly aspects of his life that could have been drawn straight from the pages of Grimm's Fairytales, Hans Christian Anderson, Camelot, and Tales of Hoffmann. Bedeviled by relentless physical trials that populated his life like so many trolls under his bridge, Karl gambled and won another day time after time. He dared to dream. And he made his dreams come true.

Then came the day he would reach further than ever before to grasp the elusive golden ring on the carousel. Early this chilly November 18th morning, he finally caught it and he slipped from this Earth to begin a magical carousel ride in the heavens in the loving company of his family and ancestors. The Life of Karl has turned the page. He sings with joy. He is free, risen, full of life, he lives!

Carol Reid, November 18, 2021

Musical Offering

For the Beauty of the Earth #28

*For the Beauty of the Earth, for the splendor of the skies,
For the love which from our birth over and around us lies,
God of all, to you we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.*

*For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale, and tree and flower,
sun and moon and stars of light
God of all, to you we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.*

*For the joy of human love, siblings all as we may be,
Friends on earth and friends above,
for all gentle thoughts and mild
God of all, to you we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.*

*For the good that love inspires,
for a love where none exclude,
For a faith that never tires, and for every heart renewed,
God of all, to you we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.*

The Prayer that Jesus taught the Disciples

The Sayville Congregational Church Chancel Choir

No One is Better Than Anyone Else
by James Ahrend

Blessing and Sending Forth

Frank Esposito

POSTLUDE

And So It Goes
by Billy Joel



Karl's husband Frank and all their Family thank you for joining us today. It is comforting to be together.

In the Spring, when the magnificent garden to which Karl and Frank tended is in full bloom, please plan to join us for a "Celebration of Love" at the home they have shared for many years. In the meantime, care for one another, as you have so wonderfully cared for them.

Today's service will be available online following links from the church's website at www.sayvilleucc.org

Frank asks that any donations in Karl's name be made to:

*The Human Rights Campaign or
Sayville Congregational United Church of Christ*

Love is Love. Always.