



Celebration of the Life of Alice Gray
June 28, 1934 – September 3, 2022

Sayville Congregational United Church of Christ
Sayville, New York
Sunday, September 11, 2022, at 1:00 PM

The Bell is Rung

Prelude "Ave Maria" Sean Cameron, Music Director

Opening Prayer Rev. Ray Bagnuolo

Hymn Abide with Me New Century Hymnal #99 vss. 1, 2, 4, 5

Abide with me; fast falls the even tide;
The earth's shadows deepen, Lord, with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.

I need your presence every passing hour;
I need your grace to fill the tempter's power.
Give me your love my guide and stay to be.
Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me.

I fear no foe, with you at hand to bless;
I'll have no weight and tears no bitterness;
Where is death's sting? where, grave, your victory?
I triumph still if you abide with me.

Hold now your cross before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies;
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, O Christ, abide with me.

First Reading

Psalm 139:1-12

O God, you have searched me and known me.

You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away. You search out my path and my lying down, and you are acquainted with all my ways.

Even before a word is on my tongue, O God, you know it completely. You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it.

Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence? As I ascend to heaven, You are there. If I were to take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea, even there your hand leads me, and your right hand holds me fast.

There is no darkness in your love and presence. The night is as bright as the day to you, it is as light to you.

It is the home to which I journey.

Hymn "Amazing Grace" New Century Hymnal #547

Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound, that
saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
now am found, was blind but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved; How precious did that
grace appear the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I
have already come; 'Tis grace has brought me
safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun, we have no less days
to sing God's praise than when we first began.

Gospel Reading

John 14:1-6, 25-27

Jesus said to the disciples, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In God'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 I 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'm going."

Thomas said to him, Rabbi, 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."

Jesus continues...

"I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom I will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace 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

Cast of Emmanuel 2019 with a special introduction...

“Somehow I missed the angels...”

Words and Music by Dorothy Davidson Hauske

Somehow I missed the angels,
Somehow I always miss the angels,
In fact, I’ve never, ever seen any angels at all.
But if I heard an angel call me, I would know it.
And I would know exactly what I’d say.
I’d say, “Good morning, Angel.
Where are you going with your Good News today?”

Somehow I missed the angels,
Somehow I always miss the angels,
In fact, I’ve never, ever seen any angels at all.
But if I heard an angel call me, I would know,
I’d say, “Angel, in a way, I’m just like you:
You are sent with your good news.
And every day, I am sent too.”

Remembering Alice

With Voices of Family and Friends

Hymn "I've Got Peace Like a River" New Century Hymnal #478

I've got peace like a river, I've got peace like a river, I've got peace like a river, in my soul. I've got peace like a river, I've got peace like a river, I've got peace like a river in my soul.

I've got joy like a fountain, I've got joy like a fountain, I've got joy like a fountain, in my soul. I've got joy like a fountain, I've got joy like a fountain, I've got joy like a fountain, in my soul.

I've got love like an ocean, I've got a love like an ocean, I've got a love like an ocean in my soul. I've got love like an ocean, I got a love like an ocean, I got a love like an ocean in my soul.

I've got faith like an anchor, I've got faith like an anchor, I've got faith like an anchor in my soul. I've got faith like an anchor, I've got faith like an anchor, I got faith like an anchor in my soul.

God, you are my shepherd---
I want nothing more.
You lie me down in green meadows;
you lead me beside restful waters:
you refresh my soul.
You guide me to lush pastures
for the sake of your Name.
Even if I am surrounded by the shadows of Death,
I fear no danger for you are with me.
Your rod and your staff—
they give me courage.
You spread a table for me
in the presence of those who oppose me,
and you anoint my head with oil—
my cup overflows!
Only goodness and love will follow me
all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in your house, God,
for days without end.

Postlude “We Will Meet Again” by Vera Lynn (1939)





Alice's Family thanks you for joining us today.
It is good and comforting to be together.

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

Alice's Family invites you to a luncheon in her honor
At Butera's Restaurant following the Alice's burial
At Union Cemetery.
(Butera's Restaurant I across the street from the church)

The Family asks that any donations
be made in Alice's name to:
Sayville Congregational United Church of Christ
131 Middle Road, Sayville, NY 11782
631-589-1519; www.sayvilleucc.org