

In Memoriam
GEORGINA FRITZE



Remember Me

*Remember me with smiles and laughter,
For that's how I'll remember you all.
If you can only remember me with tears,
Then don't remember me at all.*

Celebration of Life
St. Luke's Anglican Church
July 24, 2021

Officiant: The Rev. Daniel Fournier
Organist: Susanne Reul-Zastre
Soloist: Sue Doman

Welcome to St. Luke's Church

Today, at this special service, we take this opportunity as Georgina's loved ones, her family, friends and church family, to join together in God's presence to share thanksgiving for this precious life as we support one another in our sense of loss, and faith in the "sure and certain hope" we have in the resurrection to eternal life in Christ.

Essentially the Christian faith assures us that brokenness and pain we experience in this world does not define us. Rather we are defined as humans by the faith and hope and love which can be found in the teachings and life of Jesus Christ, whose resurrection assured victory over death.

Whatever your faith background, we hope you will feel welcome and at home in these pews.

Please join in all the parts of this service printed **in bold type**.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Scripture Sentences and Welcome (please stand)

*Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life
Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live,
And everyone who lives and believes in me will never die."*

*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?*

*You will show me the path that leads to life.
Your presence fills me with joy,
And brings me pleasure forever.*

*Greeting and Welcome: The Rev. Daniel Fournier
(please be seated)*

A Time of Remembering by family and friends
(Keenen Sweezie, friend)
(Others)

Opening Prayer

O God, creator of all life,
Help us to accept death as a part of life,
trusting in your goodness and great love
for every one of us. We feel now the pain of
parting with our loved one, Georgina, but we rejoice
that we were privileged to experience life with her.
We entrust Georgina to you in death
as in life you entrusted her to us.
We pray in sincerity and hope. **Amen.**

Opening Hymn: Love Divine (please stand)

Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter every trembling heart.

Come, almighty to deliver;
let us all thy grace receive;
suddenly return, and never,
nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

Finish, then, thy new creation;
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee,
changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

The First Reading: 1 John 4: 7-8; 10-12 (please be seated)

Reader: A Reading from the first letter of John.

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.

Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love.

In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins.

Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love

one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

Word of God: Word of life.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel Reading: Matthew 14: 22-33 (please stand)

(Read by Tara Poillievre)

Reader: The Lord be with you.

***People:* And also with you.**

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking towards them on the lake. But when the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified, saying, 'It is a ghost!' And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, 'Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.'

Peter answered him, 'Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.' He said, 'Come.' So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came towards Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, 'Lord, save me!' Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, 'You of little faith, why did you doubt?' When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshipped him, saying, 'Truly you are the Son of God.'

Reader: The Gospel of Christ

People: **Glory to you, Lord Jesus, Christ.**

Reflection: The Rev. Daniel Fournier and The Rev. Joan Scandrett (please be seated)

Solo: Take These Wings (Besig/Kupferschmid)
Soloist: Sue Doman

I saw a sparrow lying on the ground
Her life I knew would soon be at an end
I knelt before her as she made a sound
She looked at me and said, "My Friend ..."

*Take these wings, and learn to fly
To the highest mountain in the sky
Take these eyes, and learn to see
All the things so dear to me
Take this song, and learn to sing
Fill your voice with all the joys of spring
Take this heart, and set it free
Let it fly beyond the sea"*

I found another sparrow on the sand
A tiny bird whose life had just begun
I picked him up and held him in my hand
I smiled at him and said, "My Son ..."

*Take these wings, and learn to fly
To the highest mountain in the sky
Take these eyes, and learn to see
All the things so dear to me
Take this song, and learn to sing
Fill your voice with all the joys of spring
Take this heart, and set it free
Let it fly beyond the sea*

The Apostle's Creed (said together; please stand)

I believe in God the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn: In the Garden (please stand)

**I come to the garden alone
while the dew is still on the roses
and the voice I hear falling on my ear
the Son of God discloses.**

(Refrain)

**And He walks with me, and He talks with me,
and He tells me I am His own;
and the joy we share as we tarry there,
None other has ever known.**

**He speaks, and the sound of His voice,
Is so sweet the birds hush their singing,
and the melody that He gave to me
within my heart is ringing. *Refrain***

**I'd stay in the garden with Him
though the night around me be falling,
but He bids me go; through the voice of woe
His voice to me is calling. *Refrain***

The Prayers (sit or kneel as is your custom)

Leader: Let us pray.

Gracious and loving God, we thank you for all the blessings of life, for watching over us in death and welcoming us into your never-ending care. We are grateful for all the ways in which we come to know your love through the love of our family and special friends. We thank you, too, for all who share our lives, remembering especially friends and neighbours, care-givers and companions, doctors and nurses, and all who work to eradicate disease. Today, we give you thanks for Georgina, and praise you for the gift of her life: for all in her that was generous and kind; for the love she gave and received; for all that lives on through those who knew and loved her. Comforting and caring God, we pray for the family of Georgina, and for all who grieve her loss. May they know the comfort of your love through the support of those who walk with them during this time. Guide us all as we seek to reach out in love and in hope. Grant us all a vision of your purpose in our life and work together, that we may come to know more deeply your love, revealed to us in Jesus Christ, that is with us in life, in death, and in life beyond death.

Amen.

We join in praying the Lord's Prayer:

**Our Father who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy Name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory,
For ever and ever.
Amen.**

The Commendation (remain standing)

Give rest, O Christ, to your servants with your saints, where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.

You only are immortal, the creator and maker of all; and we are mortal, formed of the earth, and to earth shall we return. For so did you ordain when you created me, saying, "You are dust, and to dust you shall return." All of us go down to the dust; yet even at the grave we make our song: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Give rest, O Christ, to your servants with your saints, where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.

Priest: Into your hands, O merciful Saviour, we commend your daughter Georgina Fritze. Acknowledge, we pray, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a precious one of your own redeeming. Receive her into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light. **Amen.**

A period of silence follows here:

Priest: Rest eternal grant to her, O Lord.

People: **And let light perpetual shine upon her.**

Priest: May her soul, and the souls of all the departed, by the mercy of God, rest in peace. **Amen.**

The Blessing

May God bless you and keep you; may God's countenance be upon you and be gracious to you; may the light of God's presence be on you, and give you peace, now and always. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn: We Shall Go Out with Hope of Resurrection

**We shall go out with hope of resurrection;
we shall go out, from strength to strength go on;
we shall go out and tell our stories boldly;
tales of a love that will not let us go.
We'll sing our songs of wrongs that can be righted;
we'll dream our dreams of hurts that can be healed;
we'll weave a cloth of all the world united
within the vision of new life in Christ.**

**We'll give a voice to those who have not spoken;
we'll find the words for those whose lips are sealed;
we'll make the tunes for those who sing no longer,
expressive love, alive in every heart.
We'll share our joy with those who still are weeping,
raise hymns of strength for hearts that break in grief,
we'll leap and dance the resurrection story,
including all in circles of our love.**

The Dismissal

Let us go forth renewed in faith, strengthened in hope, and surrounded with God's love.

People: Thanks be to God!

Following the service, please join the family for refreshments in the gazebo behind the church hall. Masks are required except when eating/drinking.



The Rose Beyond The Wall

*A rose once grew where all could see,
Sheltered by a garden wall.
And as the days passed swiftly by,
It spread its branches straight and tall.*

*One day, a beam of light shone through
A crevice that had opened wide;
The rose bent gently toward its warmth
Then passed beyond to the other side.*

*Now, you who deeply feel its loss,
Be comforted – the rose blooms there;
Its beauty even greater now,
Nurtured by God's loving care.*