



A Celebration of Life
Sheila Cailyn Holroyd
4/28/87-10/3/23

October 21, 2023
2 p.m.
Reception to follow

Westminster Presbyterian
Church
85 Chestnut Street
Albany, NY 12210

Prelude Happy recorded by Pharrell Williams © 2013

Call to Worship Psalm 30: 4-5,11-12 Leah Threatte

Leader: Sing to the Lord, you who love God!

People: There may be tears during the night, but joy comes in the mourning.

Leader: You change our despair into a dance—
you strip us of our death shroud
and clothe us with joy.

**People: That's why our hearts sing to you,
that's why we can't keep silent—**

adapted from The Inclusive Bible: The First Egalitarian Translation © 2009

Opening Hymn #741 Guide My Feet African American Spiritual

Welcome and Greeting Reverend Heather Kirk-Davidoff

Choral Anthem The Falconer
by Alfred Fedak
Words by Richard Leach

Rise, my song, and stretch your wings, delight and need to trace. Rise for those the gospel brings to seek a singing place. This will be our singing day, word and tune will both be true. Song, soar up, but not away – the falconer waits for you.

Rise my song, and have no fear of soaring wide and high. Christ the falconer is near, wherever you may fly. See the human world below, showing scars and beauty too. In a closing circle go, the falconer waits for you.

Soar, my song, with wings wide fanned, delight and need to trace. Come to Christ's uplifted hand, and find a resting place. One day soaring song shall see everything made whole and new. Day of gladness, come to be! The falconer waits for you.

Reading A Psalm for Sheila by Rev. Andrea Holroyd

Search us, O God, and find our heart;
restore it to place that we may be whole
Help us in our pain!
Emptiness follows us all our days,
every waking moment a void of grief
I --- We cannot sleep;
dreams are deafening in silence
Life stretches out,
a never-ending valley of featureless shadows
Anger and sadness lay traps for dragging feet

Come to us in our grief, O God!
Almighty, who spins the whirling heavens,
 who knows each blade of grass and cares for each bird
I --- We cry to You!
Let us feel joy again,
 show us the way to life
You created order of chaos, yet
Nothing is random in your eyes

Help us see the beauty of unexpectedness,
 pivots in plans,
 the win of time together, even when the outcome is loss
Open our spirits to color again!
Lift our souls, cradle us close,
 breathe life into us again
Right now, we cannot see daylight,
 all is covered in shadows,
 blurry, tendrils of fog swirl and bite
O, let us live!
You alone can show the path,
 fluttering butterflies sweeping aside the mist
Death is part of life, life of death;
 in You, random is order, chaos to us is beauty to You

Anthem Prayer

Rise Up to Life Renewed

by Glenn Ledder

sung by Glenn, Susan, Louis, and Becky Ledder

Rise Up To Life Renewed
From the Gates of Repentance Prayer Book
Composer: Glenn Ledder

Help us, Oh God, to lie down in peace,
 and raise us up to life renewed.
Spread over us the shelter of your peace,
guide us with your counsel and be our help.
 Guard our coming and our going,
that now and always we have life and peace.
Help us, Oh God, to lie down in peace,
 and raise us up to life renewed. Amen
©2002 Glenn Ledder

Time of Sharing Memories

Reverend Heather Kirk-Davidoff
Colleen Holroyd
Amanda DiCaprio
Debra Burger
Forrest Holroyd

Instrumental Offering	Medley	Donna Hébert and George Wilson
Reading	It Takes a Village	by Forrest Holroyd
Song	Give Light/Silent Night <i>with growing candlelight</i>	<i>Give Light by Terry Leonino & Greg Artzner</i> <i>signing by Debra Burger</i> <i>lead for Silent Night: Jean Johnson-Foster-Johnson</i>
1.	Give light, and people will find a way Give light, and people will find a way Give light, and people will find a way People will find a way, I do believe.	<i>Nancy Holroyd</i> <i>+ Andrea</i> <i>+ Colleen</i>
2.	Come together, and people will find a way x3 People will find a way, I do believe.	<i>+ Extended Families and Choir</i>
3.	Give love...	<i>+ Old Songs Connections</i>
4.	Dance together...	<i>+ Everyone</i>
5.	Give light...	
<p>Silent Night, Holy Night! All is calm, all is bright 'round yon virgin mother and child! Holy Infant, so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.</p>		
Story and Commendation	Ministry: Defined by Sheila	<i>read by Reverend Andrea Holroyd</i>
Closing Hymn #853	We Are Marching in the Light of God <i>Siyahamba</i>	South African: Zulu/Xhosa <i>translation: Garcia Grindal</i>
Invitation to Reception and Final Blessing		Reverend Heather Kirk-Davidoff

With Thanks to:
Sheila's entire village

A special thanks to those who participated in Sheila's Celebration:

The Westminster Presbyterian Church Choir

Reverend Heather Kirk-Davidoff

Leah Threatte

Donna Hébert and George Wilson

Amanda DiCaprio, Debra Burger, and Jean Johnson

the Ledder Family – Glenn, Susan, Louis, Becky



WESTMINSTER
— Presbyterian Church —

Guide My Feet

741

1 Guide my feet while I run this race;
(yes, my Lord!)

guide my feet while I run this race;
(yes, my Lord!)

guide my feet while I run this race, for I

don't want to run this race in vain! (race in vain!)

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 2 Hold my hand ... | 5 Search my heart ... |
| 3 Stand by me ... | 6 Guide my feet ... |
| 4 I'm your child ... | |

This African American spiritual is based on the imagery of "the race that is set before us" in Hebrews 12:1-2. Its call-and-response structure allows for the improvisation and addition of stanzas related to an athletic metaphor that is as vivid today as it was centuries ago.

853 We Are Marching in the Light of God

Siyahamba

We are march-ing in the light of God; we are march-ing in the
Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha -

light of God. We are march - ing in the light of God;
nyen' kwen - khos'. Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos',
we are march-ing in the light of God.

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march-ing in the light of, the light of God.
si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen-, kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march-ing in the light of God.
si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.

This lively Zulu/Xhosa freedom song originated in a Methodist young men's group in South Africa and has gone on to become popular in many other languages around the globe. Some additional stanzas are suggested, but others may be improvised as appropriate to the occasion.

TRUSTING IN THE PROMISES OF GOD

We are march - ing
Si - ya - ham - ba

We are march - ing, march - ing, we are march - ing, march - ing,
Si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba,

we are march - ing in the light of God.
si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.

we are march - ing in the light of, the light of God.
si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen-, kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.

we are march - ing in the light of God.
si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.

We are march - ing
Si - ya - ham - ba

We are march - ing, march - ing, we are march - ing, march - ing,
Si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba,

we are march - ing in the light of God.
si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.

Additional stanzas ad lib.:
We are dancing...
We are praying...
We are singing...