



A CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF

LLOYD C. BENNETT

May 3, 1931 – February 14, 2023

“Have courage for the great sorrows of life,
and patience for the small ones. And when you
have laboriously accomplished your daily task,
go to sleep in peace. God is awake.”

—Victor Hugo

*Please silence cell phones and other devices. Masks are encouraged, but not required.
The single congregational hymn is printed on the reverse of the bulletin.*

Prelude

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring

Johann Sebastian Bach

Words of Welcome

Call to Worship

Psalm 121

One: I lift up my eyes to the hills—from where will my help come?

All: My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

One: He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.

All: He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

One: The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade at your right hand.

All: The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.

One: The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.

All: The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore.

Prayer of Invocation

One: The peace of God be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us pray.

**All: God of grace and glory, in your boundless compassion, console us who mourn.
Give us faith to see in death the gate of eternal life, so that in quiet confidence
we may continue our course on earth, until by your call, we are reunited with
those who have gone before; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

A Reading from the Psalter (*Unison*)

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Affirmation of Faith (*Unison*)

We believe there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, and we know that in everything God works for good for those who love God, who are called according to God's purpose. We are sure that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Musical Offering *One Day at a Time*

Cristy Lane (M. Wilkin/K. Kristofferson)

A Lesson from Scripture

2 Corinthians 4:16-5:1

So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.

For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

Meditation

Stephen R. Silver

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Almighty God, in Jesus Christ you promised many rooms within your house. Give us faith to see, beyond touch and sight, some sure sign of your kingdom, and, where vision fails, to trust your love which never fails. Lift heavy sorrow and give us good hope in Jesus, so we may bravely walk our earthly way, and look forward to glad reunion in the life to come, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Loving God, you are nearest to us when we need you most. In this hour of sorrow we turn to you, trusting in your loving mercy. We bless you for the gift of Lloyd, for the joy he gave all who knew him, for the precious memories that will abide with us, and for the assurance that he lives forever in the joy and peace of your presence. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer (*Unison*)

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Hymn 237 *I Come to the Garden Alone* (verses: soloist, refrain: all) Garden

Words of Commendation

We seem to give him back to thee, dear God, who gavest him to us. Yet, as thou didst not lose him in giving, so we have not lost him by his return. Not as the world giveth, givest thou, O Lover of Souls! What thou givest, thou takest not away. For what is thine is ours always, if we are thine. Life is eternal; and love is immortal; and death is only a horizon; and a horizon is nothing save the limit of our sight.

Lift us up, strong Son of God, that we may see further; cleanse our eyes that we may see more clearly; draw us closer to thyself that we may know ourselves nearer to our beloved who are with thee. And while thou dost prepare a place for us, prepare us for that happy place, that where they are, and thou art, we too may be; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Witness to the Life of Lloyd Bennett

Benediction

Loving God, your beloved Son took children into his arms and blessed them. Give us grace, that we may entrust Lloyd to your never-failing care and love, and bring us all to your heavenly kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Postlude *Solemn Processional* George Frideric Handel

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Leading This Morning's Service

The Rev. Stephen R. Silver, Pastor

Ernie Drown, Organist • Matthew Packard, Soloist/Guitarist • Brian Clancy, Soloist
Members of the Bennett and Packard Families

*All are warmly invited to gather for a reception in the Parish Hall following the service.
Many thanks to the FCC Diaconate and congregation for organizing the reception.*

First Congregational Church of Lebanon

The Rev. Stephen R. Silver, Pastor

Ernie Drown, Organist and Choir Director • Nancy Parsons, Children's Community Corner
Jon Scott, Chair of Church Council • Linda Gerlach, Chair of Deacons • Barbara Jones, Moderator
Brian Clancy, Church Administrator

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I Come to the Garden Alone

(In the Garden)

John 20:14-18

C. Austin Miles, 1912

1 I come to the gar-den a-lone, while the dew is still on the
 2 He speaks, and the sound of his voice is so sweet the birds hush their
 3 I'd stay in the gar-den with him, though the night a-round me be

ros-es; And the voice I hear, fall-ing on my ear, the
 sing-ing; And the mel-o-dy that he gave to me with-
 fall-ing; "But he bids me go; through the voice of woe his

Son of God dis-clos-es.
 in my heart is ring-ing. And he walks with me, and he
 voice to me is call-ing.

Refrain

talks with me, and he tells me I am his own, And the

joy we share as we tar-ry there, none oth-er has ev-er known.

C. Austin Miles wrote this hymn and its music to tell the story of Mary Magdalene's encounter with Jesus at the tomb, when she recognizes him and calls him "Rabboni" ("Teacher").

Tune: GARDEN 8.9.5.5.7. with refrain
 C. Austin Miles, 1912