

First Church in Windsor, UCC
June 1, 2021, 11 a.m.



A Service of Remembrance & Thanksgiving for the Life of

Lucille Hempel Parker

May 31, 1931 - March 26, 2021

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship (from Psalm 100)

Leader: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.

People: Worship the Lord with gladness; come into God's presence with singing.

Leader: Know that the Lord is God. It is God who made us and we are God's.

People: We are God's people and we are the sheep of God's pasture.

Leader: Enter the gates with thanksgiving and the courts with praise. Give thanks to God and bless the holy name.

People: For the Lord is good; and God's steadfast love endures forever and God's faithfulness to all generations.

Hymn

For the Beauty of the Earth

Words by Folliott S. Pierpoint

Music by Conrad Kocher

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**For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,
For the love which from our birth over and around us lies,
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.**

**For the beauty of each hour of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of night,
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.**

**For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight,
For the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight,
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.**

**For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,
Friends on earth and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild,
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.**

Prayer

Reading

I Corinthians 13: 1-13

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

Homily

Pastor Nicole

Words of Remembrance

Julie Fewster
Beth Parker
Doug Parker

Anthem

In the Bulb There Is a Flower

Words and music by Natalie Sleeth

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**In the bulb there is a flower, in the seed, an apple tree;
In cocoons a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be,
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.**

**There's a song in every silence, seeking word and melody;
There's a dawn in every darkness, bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future, what it holds, a mystery,
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.**

**In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity;
In our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity.
In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory,
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us. 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

Now We Thank We All Our God

Words by Martin Rinkart

Music by Johann Cruger

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**Now thank we all our God, with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices.
Who, from our parents' arms has blessed us on our way,
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.**

**O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us.
And keep us still in grace, and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills in this world and the next.**

**All praise and thanks to God our Maker now be given,
to Christ, and Spirit, too, our help in highest heaven,
the one eternal God, whom earth and heaven adore,
for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.**

Commendation

Benediction

Postlude

Selected Hymns
Played by the First Church Bell Choir

Officiant: Pastor Nicole Grant Yonkman, Senior Pastor at the First Church in Windsor

Pianist: Jane Frogley, Music Director and Organist at the First Church in Windsor

Alterscape "*Remembering Our Lucille*" by Sue Williams

Our thanks to the First Church in Windsor Choir for providing the music for today's service

Lucille (Hempel) Parker, 89, of Cromwell and formerly of West Hartford, Windsor, and Danville, VT, beloved wife and ministry partner of the Rev. F. Van Gorder Parker, passed away, Friday, March 26, 2021, at her home in Cromwell surrounded by her family and friends. Born and raised in Georgetown, KY, daughter of the late Edward and Ruth (Graves) Hempel, she graduated from Georgetown College. She received her master's degree in Christian Education from Scarritt College in Nashville, TN.

Lucille was director of children's ministry at Hyde Park Community Methodist Church in Cincinnati, OH when she met her future husband. From then on, she was Van's partner in ministry at churches in Michigan, Massachusetts, and most especially for 27 years at First Church in Windsor UCC. Lucy exuded warmth and a welcoming spirit. She was a great friend, a wonderful listener, skilled gardener, avid basketball fan (go UConn women!), excellent cook, and international traveler.

She had a deep faith but was not dogmatic. She questioned things, wondered things, read a lot, supported her children always and was her grandchildren's super fan. Her family and friends were at the center of her life. She made everyone feel special. Lucy was employed by the Loomis Chaffee School Admissions Department for many years before her retirement.

Besides her husband Van, she leaves her two daughters Susan G. Parker of St. Johnsbury, VT and Elizabeth Parker Murnaghan and her husband George of Lexington, MA and her son Douglas H. Parker and his wife Kimberly of Bethesda, MD; and grandchildren Madeleine, Jackson, and Faith Parker and Grace, Luke, and James Murnaghan.

Memorial gifts may be sent to the First Church in Windsor at 107 Palisado Ave., Windsor, CT 06095 or given online at www.fcwucc.org.