



AS THE DEER PANTETH FOR THE WATER
SO MY SOUL LONGETH AFTER THEE

SERVICE OF COMFORT AND HOPE

November 4, 2023

In Loving Memory of

Muriel (Miki) Anne Etzel

A Christian memorial service is a worship celebration. Although there is sadness because we no longer have our loved one with us, we meet here to celebrate the joy of victory for Miki Anne Etzel and for ourselves as we believe that Jesus Christ has died for us and was raised back to life. We worship together.

† † †

VICTORY CELEBRATION

Do you not know that all who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? We were, therefore, buried with Him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we, too, may live a new life. If we have been united with Him in His death, we will certainly also be united with Him in His resurrection. (*Romans 6:3–5*)

OBITUARY

HYMN OF COMFORT

“I’m But A Stranger Here”

I’m but a stranger here, Heav’n is my home;
Earth is a desert drear, Heav’n is my home.
Danger and sorrow stand Round me on ev’ry hand;
Heav’n is my fatherland, Heav’n is my home.

What though the tempest rage, Heav’n is my home;
Short is my pilgrimage, Heav’n is my home;
And time’s wild wintry blast Soon shall be overpast;
I shall reach home at last, Heav’n is my home.

Therefore I murmur not, Heav’n is my home;
Whate’er my earthly lot, Heav’n is my home;
And I shall surely stand There at my Lord’s right hand;
Heav’n is my fatherland, Heav’n is my home.

INVOCATION

P We gather here today to receive and to share with each other the comfort and strength of our Lord.

C **In His Word is both life and hope which is ours through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

P In You, O Lord, do we trust. Be with us this day as we need and seek Your guidance and direction in grief and sorrow.

C **In You, O Lord, do we trust. And so, we make our beginning in the name of the Father Who created us, the Son Who redeemed both body and soul, and the Holy Spirit Who made this earthly body the temple of our Lord. Amen.**

P O God of grace and glory, we remember before You today, Miki, our sister in Christ. We thank You for giving her to us to know and to love as a companion here on earth. In Your unlimited compassion, console us who mourn. Enable us, Lord, to be able to see in death the gate to eternal life and that we may continue our course on earth in confidence until, by Your call, we are reunited with Miki and those who have gone before us; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

P May our Lord Jesus Christ Himself, and God the Father Who loved us, and by His grace gave us eternal life, strengthen you in every good deed and word. Amen. (*2 Thessalonians 2:16–17*)

MIKI'S FAVORITE VERSES

Ephesians 2:8-9 (ESV)

⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹ not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

Matthew 6:33 (ESV)

⁶ But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

MIKI'S TESTIMONY

OLD TESTAMENT

Psalm 100 (ESV)

- ¹ Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!
² Serve the LORD with gladness!
Come into His presence with singing!
³ Know that the LORD, He is God!
It is He who made us, and we are His;
we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture.
⁴ Enter His gates with thanksgiving,
and His courts with praise!
Give thanks to Him; bless His name!
⁵ For the LORD is good;
His steadfast love endures forever,
and His faithfulness to all generations.

SECOND READING

Revelation 21:1-4 (ESV)

¹ Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ² And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be His people, and God Himself will be with them as their God. ⁴ He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."

GOSPEL PROMISE

John 14:1-6 (ESV)

[Jesus said,] ¹ "Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in Me. ² In My Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to Myself, that where I am you may be also. ⁴ And you know the way to where I am going." ⁵ Thomas said to Him, "Lord, we do not know where You are going. How can we know the way?" ⁶ Jesus said to him, "I am the Way, and the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."

HYMN OF HOPE

“I Know That My Redeemer Lives”

I know that my Redeemer lives;
What comfort this sweet sentence gives!
He lives, He lives, who once was dead;
He lives, my ever-living head.

He lives triumphant from the grave;
He lives eternally to save;
He lives all-glorious in the sky;
He lives exalted there on high.

He lives and grants me daily breath;
He lives, and I shall conquer death;
He lives my mansion to prepare;
He lives to bring me safely there.

He lives, all glory to His name!
He lives, my Jesus, still the same;
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives:
I know that my Redeemer lives!

MESSAGE “BORROWED TIME”

John 14:1–6
Pr Jim Sprenkle

PRAYER

P O God, our Father in Heaven:

C **Have Mercy.**

P O God the Son, Redeemer of the world:

C **Have Mercy.**

P O God the Holy Spirit, our Counselor:

C **Grant us Your peace.**

P O, how glorious is that Kingdom wherein all the saints rejoice with Christ.

C **They are clothed with white robes and follow the Lamb wherever He goes.**

P Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
C **As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

P Loving and merciful God, if it were not for the promise of the resurrection and life eternal, we could not endure the sorrow which has come upon this gathering. Only the assurance of Your continual presence enables us to carry on during these times. Lord, do not let these loved ones mourn as those who have no hope. Comfort them day after day with the precious promise of Your Word. Give them grace to come to You and to find rest for their souls.

Merciful God, You have appointed us to endure trouble and sorrow with our Lord Jesus Christ before we enter with Him into glory. Enable us to be strong in faith to the end and to find peace and joy in the blessed hope of the resurrection of the dead and of the glory of the world to come. We pray through Jesus. Amen.

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 and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

THE COMMENDATION

P Into Your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend Your servant, Muriel (Miki) Anne Etzel. We humbly ask, Lord, that You acknowledge her as a sheep of Your fold, a lamb of Your flock, and a sinner whom You have redeemed. Receive her into Your merciful arms, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in Heaven.
C **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

(Elderly Simeon spoke the following words when Baby Jesus was presented to him in the temple.)

Sovereign Lord, as You have promised, You now dismiss Your servant in peace. For my eyes have seen Your salvation, which You have prepared in the sight of all people, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to Your people Israel. *Luke 2:29-32*

May God enable you to see Jesus as your salvation. In the name of the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

CLOSING SONG “My Faith Looks Up To Thee”

My faith looks up to Thee,
Thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine.
Now hear me while I pray; Take all my guilt away;
O let me from this day Be wholly Thine!

May Thy rich grace impart
Strength to my fainting heart; My zeal inspire!
As Thou hast died for me, Oh, may my love to Thee
Pure, warm, and changeless be, A living fire!

While life's dark maze I tread
And griefs around me spread, Be Thou my guide;
Bid darkness turn to day, Wipe sorrow's tears away,
Nor let me ever stray From Thee aside.

When ends life's transient dream,
When death's cold, sullen stream Shall o'er me roll,
Blest Savior, then, in love, Fear and distrust remove;
O bear me safe above, A ransomed soul!

***Please join the family for a time of fellowship and refreshment
in our Community Room following the service.***

Memorials: Ascension Lutheran Church

Officiant: **Rev. Jim Sprengle**
Musician: **Brad Hall**

CHRISTIAN OBITUARY

Muriel (Miki) Anne Etzel

March 12, 1939 – October 7, 2023

† † †



Muriel Anne Etzel (Miki), daughter of George E. Brown and Yetive M. Darling, was born in Mason City (Grand Coulee Dam), Washington on March 12, 1939, and died on October 7, 2023 at the age of 84 years, 6 months, 25 days. Miki was baptized and confirmed in Ascension Lutheran Church, Gresham, Oregon, on December 11, 1966, and was a member at Ascension Lutheran at the time of death.

Muriel (Miki) Brown was united in marriage to Herman Etzel on June 15, 1963 in Macksburg Lutheran Church, Macksburg, Oregon, and they lived in a houseboat on the Columbia River, then in a home in the Rockwood area of Gresham for forty years, and eventually moved to a condo in Gresham. Two children were born to their union. They were Traci Ann Etzel and Teri Lynn Etzel.

Muriel (Miki) served her Lord through her local congregation during her years at Ascension as the Church Secretary from December, 1967 to June, 1976; held various Lutheran Women's Missionary League positions; with Herm served four years as youth counselor.

Preceding her in death are George and Yetive Brown, parents; Teri (Etzel) Flatt, daughter; Herman Etzel, husband; and Karen M. Harris, sister.

Surviving to mourn her death are daughter, Traci (Etzel) House (Allen), brother, Kerry Brown, her granddaughters, Heather, Kayla, Alexandra and Nikki Flatt; and her great grandchildren, Braiden and Micah.