

MEMORIAL SERVICE
A CELEBRATION OF LIFE &
RESURRECTION

AUGUST 6, 2022



GWYNYTH SONORA MORGAN

MAY 4, 2011 – JULY 3, 2022

PRELUDE

Yvonne Tumblin, piano, Paige Quillen, flute

Remember (Daigle)
I Shall Not Want (Assad)
For the Beauty of the Earth
Abide with Me

OPENING SENTENCES & WELCOME

HYMN *Sung by all, standing*

This was Gwyn's favorite hymn.

*1. Come, ye thankful people, come,
raise the song of harvest home;
all is safely gathered in,
ere the winter storms begin.
God our Maker doth provide
for our wants to be supplied;
come to God's own temple, come,
raise the song of harvest home.*

*2. All the world is God's own field,
fruit as praise to God we yield;
wheat and tares together sown
are to joy or sorrow grown;
first the blade and then the ear,
then the full corn shall appear;
Lord of harvest, grant that we
wholesome grain and pure may be.*

*3. For the Lord our God shall come,
and shall take the harvest home;
from the field shall in that day
all offenses purge away,
giving angels charge at last
in the fire the tares to cast;
but the fruitful ears to store
in the garner evermore.*

4. *Even so, Lord, quickly come,
bring thy final harvest home;
gather thou thy people in,
free from sorrow, free from sin,
there, forever purified,
in thy presence to abide;
come, with all thine angels, come,
raise the glorious harvest home.*

Minister: 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. JOHN 11:25-26

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: *And with your spirit*

Minister: Let us pray.

Minister: O God, who by the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ destroyed death, and brought life and immortality to light: Grant that your servant Gwyn, being raised with him, may know the strength of his presence, and rejoice in his eternal glory; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD *Please be seated*

The First Lesson: Isaiah 11:1-10

Out of the stump of David’s family will grow a shoot—
yes, a new Branch bearing fruit from the old root.

² And the Spirit of the Lord will rest on him—
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and might,
the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

³ He will delight in obeying the Lord.
He will not judge by appearance
nor make a decision based on hearsay.

⁴ He will give justice to the poor
and make fair decisions for the exploited.
The earth will shake at the force of his word,
and one breath from his mouth will destroy the wicked.

⁵ He will wear righteousness like a belt
and truth like an undergarment.

- ⁶ In that day the wolf and the lamb will live together;
the leopard will lie down with the baby goat.
The calf and the yearling will be safe with the lion,
and a little child will lead them all.
- ⁷ The cow will graze near the bear.
The cub and the calf will lie down together.
The lion will eat hay like a cow.
- ⁸ The baby will play safely near the hole of a cobra.
Yes, a little child will put its hand in a nest of deadly snakes
without harm.
- ⁹ Nothing will hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain,
for as the waters fill the sea,
so the earth will be filled with people who know the Lord.
- ¹⁰ In that day the heir to David's throne
will be a banner of salvation to all the world.
The nations will rally to him,
and the land where he lives will be a glorious place.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

The Second Lesson: 1 Peter 2:1-10

² So get rid of all evil behavior. Be done with all deceit, hypocrisy, jealousy, and all unkind speech. ² Like newborn babies, you must crave pure spiritual milk so that you will grow into a full experience of salvation. Cry out for this nourishment, ³ now that you have had a taste of the Lord's kindness.

⁴ You are coming to Christ, who is the living cornerstone of God's temple. He was rejected by people, but he was chosen by God for great honor.

⁵ And you are living stones that God is building into his spiritual temple. What's more, you are his holy priests. Through the mediation of Jesus Christ, you offer spiritual sacrifices that please God. ⁶ As the Scriptures say,

"I am placing a cornerstone in Jerusalem,
chosen for great honor,
and anyone who trusts in him
will never be disgraced."

⁷ Yes, you who trust him recognize the honor God has given him. But for those who reject him,

“The stone that the builders rejected
has now become the cornerstone.”

⁸ And,

“He is the stone that makes people stumble,
the rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they do not obey God’s word, and so they meet the fate that was planned for them.

⁹ But you are not like that, for you are a chosen people. You are royal priests, a holy nation, God’s very own possession. As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for he called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

¹⁰ “Once you had no identity as a people;
now you are God’s people.
Once you received no mercy;
now you have received God’s mercy.”

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Psalm 1 *Please stand and read responsively*

This Psalm was Gwyn’s favorite. She memorized it.

- 1 Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, *
*nor lingered in the way of sinners,
nor sat in the seats of the scornful!*
- 2 Their delight is in the law of the LORD, *
and they meditate on his law day and night.
- 3 They are like trees planted by streams of water,
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither;*
everything they do shall prosper.
- 4 It is not so with the wicked; *
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.

- 5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, *
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.
- 6 For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, *
but the way of the wicked is doomed.

Sung by all

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

THE GOSPEL

Minister: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People: *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

“Don’t let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust also in me. ² There is more than enough room in my Father’s home. If this were not so, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? ³ When everything is ready, I will come and get you, so that you will always be with me where I am. ⁴ And you know the way to where I am going.”

⁵ “No, we don’t know, Lord,” Thomas said. “We have no idea where you are going, so how can we know the way?”

⁶ Jesus told him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you had really known me, you would know who my Father is. From now on, you do know him and have seen him!”

Minister: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

CHORAL ANTHEM “Amen” St. Peter’s Choir

Composed especially for Gwyn by a friend

Artist’s note:

“Composing Gwyn's Amen was therapeutic in coming to terms with Gwyn's life in the past 1 1/2 years. As the final portion of a (probably never to be completed) song composed in grappling with Gwyn's diagnosis, prognosis and bodily deterioration, this Amen became a way to entrust Gwyn and her family to our merciful God. A recording made by the St. Peter's choir has become significant in opening up a prayer space for this precious child and her family.”

EULOGY

Gwynyth Sonora Morgan was born in Tucson, Arizona on May 4th, 2011 to Zach and Heather Morgan, while her parents were stationed at Fort Huachuca. Her middle name is a reminder of that time in the Sonoran Desert, full of wonder and beauty. Gwyn and her parents were then transferred to Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington, where she learned to enjoy the evergreen rainforest of her mother’s home state. While Heather was deployed to Afghanistan for 9 months, Gwyn and Zach explored Washington.

In 2014, she became a big sister to Lorraine, and the family transitioned out of the Army, traveling cross-country in their tiny house on wheels. Together, they lived in 450 square feet for nearly seven years, spending hours daily outside in every season. Having returned to her father’s home state of Kentucky, Gwyn became a lover of nature and of being barefoot, making fairy gardens and working with her hands. Her observant eye lent itself to the enjoyment of art and science, especially.

Gwyn attended New Horizons preschool in Frankfort, Kentucky, and Kindergarten and First Grade at Wright Elementary School in Shelby County, Kentucky. One of her favorite spots was downtown Frankfort, near the old capitol building, the shops, and the Kentucky Historical Society.

In 2014, her family began attending St. Peter’s Anglican Church in Frankfort, where she was baptized, received first communion, and was spiritually and emotionally nurtured by weekly services,

Sunday school, church potlucks, children's choir, and the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd.

In 2018, she and Lorraine became big sisters to Marian, and the family embarked on their first year of homeschooling with a Classical Conversations community. Gwyn immediately took to this kinetic, integrative approach to learning, and eventually enrolled in grammar, history, and art classes online with Veritas Scholars Academy to supplement her home and community learning.

Gwyn experienced a hemorrhage in her brain in November 2020. After emergency surgery, she was diagnosed with grade 4 glioblastoma of the thalamus, an aggressive and lethal brain tumor with genetic mutations that made it even more deadly: It repaired its own DNA to prolong the life of the cancer cells and masked its presence to the immune system by appearing benign. Gwyn bravely underwent the standard of care -- 40 days of radiation and chemotherapy at Norton Children's Hospital -- to be eligible for clinical trials. During this time, the family lived at the Ronald McDonald House in downtown Louisville, which enabled Gwyn to participate in intensive rehabilitation therapy for mobility on the left side of her body, which had been severely impacted by the tumor hemorrhage.

Both Gwyn and her family prayed for miraculous healing from her brain damage and terminal cancer diagnosis, but when this did not happen, all resolved to support her living life as fully as possible. Her grandparents, along with many aunts, uncles and cousins and friends, made this possible and enriched her experiences, even when she had to use her wheelchair.

In spring 2021, Gwyn began traveling every three weeks with her family to St. Louis Children's hospital as part of a clinical trial. She shared many adventures at tourist attractions in Kentucky, Indiana, and Missouri along I-64, and enjoyed the many things to do in St. Louis. She experienced a tumor recurrence and seizure in November 2021, requiring hospitalization. Gwyn let her interest in science help her become an informed young patient, and asked her caregivers to explain which part of the cancer cell would be affected by a given treatment: DNA, cell membrane, mitochondria, etc. When presented with the limited options, she chose to decline

further clinical trial options based on their outcomes and side effects, receiving palliative chemotherapy at UK Children’s Hospital every 3 weeks. The kindness and compassion of Gwyn’s many medical caregivers over the course of her year-and-a-half journey bolstered her spirits and remain an inspiration to her family.

After receiving compassionate care from Heritage Palliative and Hospice Care, Gwyn died at home on the evening of July 3, 2022. She is survived by her mother, Heather, father, Zach, and sisters Lorraine and Marian. Her family remains committed to sharing her story as an example of a “race well run,” even though she is dearly missed every day.

In spring 2022, just a week before her 11th birthday, Gwyn Morgan became a published children’s book author, through generous support of the Make-a-Wish Foundation. She wrote her first draft of “Drippy: The Tale of the Sad Rain Cloud” in the summer before her diagnosis. You can help us spread her legacy and interact with her book at the website: <https://www.drippytheraincloud.com>. Her book is also available for purchase following the service.

VIDEO TRIBUTE

CHORAL ANTHEM *“Dona Nobis Pacem”*

This song is sung with special thanks to our “Classical Conversations” communities, who have helped us to uphold the good, the true, and the beautiful. This song was a favorite of Gwyn’s during her daily radiation treatments, where she would wheel, and then walk, the labyrinth at the radiation clinic at Norton Children’s Hospital.

THE HOMILY

The Rev. Dr. Mark Royster
Rector, St. Peter’s Anglican Church

HYMN *Sung by all, standing*

This is Gwyn's "baby song" that Heather sang over her while still in the womb, and also often at bedtimes after she was born.

*1. O Love that will not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in thee.
I give thee back the life I owe,
that in thine ocean depths its flow
may richer, fuller be.*

*2. O Light that follows all my way,
I yield my flick'ring torch to thee.
My heart restores its borrowed ray,
that in thy sunshine's blaze its day
may brighter, fairer be.*

*3. O Joy that seekest me through pain,
I cannot close my heart to thee.
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
and feel the promise is not vain,
that morn shall tearless be.*

*4. O Cross that liftest up my head,
I dare not ask to fly from thee.
I lay in dust, life's glory dead,
and from the ground there blossoms red,
life that shall endless be.*

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *Standing*

You may respond by reading the italicized type.

Minister: For our sister Gwyn, let us pray to our Lord Jesus Christ who said, "I am the Resurrection and I am the Life."

Lord, you consoled Martha and Mary in their distress; draw near to us who mourn for Gwyn and dry the tears of those who weep.

Hear us, Lord.

You wept at the grave of Lazarus, your friend; comfort us in our sorrow.

Hear us, Lord.

You raised the dead to life; give to our sister eternal life.

Hear us, Lord.

You promised paradise to the thief who repented; bring our sister to the joys of heaven.

Hear us, Lord.

Our sister was washed in Baptism and anointed with the Holy Spirit; give her fellowship with all your saints.

Hear us, Lord.

She was nourished with your Body and Blood; grant her a place at the table in your heavenly kingdom.

Hear us, Lord.

Comfort us in our sorrows at the death of our sister;

Let our faith be our consolation, and eternal life our hope.

Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to you our sister Gwyn, who through faith in you and Baptism was reborn by water and the Spirit. Grant that her death may recall to us your victory over death and be an occasion for us to renew our trust in your Father's love. Give us, we pray, the faith to follow where you have led the way; and where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, to the ages of ages. *Amen.*

MEDITATION “*I Know That My Redeemer Liveth,*” by G.F Handel

Soloist: Dr. Marie-France Duclos

THE COMMENDATION

Minister: Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with your saints.

People: Where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.

Minister: You only are immortal, the creator and maker of mankind; 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.

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

Celebrant: Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Gwyn. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner 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.*

CLOSING HYMN *Sung by all, standing*

This hymn was new to our family in 2020 but became a favorite of Gwyn's especially the last several months of life. The lyrics met us in the day to day of decline and continuous effort, especially Gwyn's daily struggle to do basic things for herself. She sang it often.

*1. He giveth more grace when the burdens grow greater,
He sendeth more strength when the labors increase;
To added afflictions He addeth His mercy,
To multiplied trials His multiplied peace.*

*His love has no limit, His grace has no measure,
His power no boundary known unto men;
For out of His infinite riches in Jesus
He giveth, and giveth, and giveth again.*

*2. When we have exhausted our store of endurance,
When our strength has failed ere the day is half done,
When we reach the end of our hoarded resources
Our Father's full giving is only begun.*

*His love has no limits, His grace has no measure,
His power no boundary known unto men;
For out of His infinite riches in Jesus
He giveth, and giveth, and giveth again.*

THE BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

Minister: The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ Our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: *Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

POSTLUDE

Yvonne Tumblin, piano, Amy Britton, viola

“Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted,” (Ortega)

Please remain seated until the family departs. There will be opportunities to visit, share stories, and interact with Gwyn’s legacy, including some of her support team and caregivers, and especially her book, “Drippy: The Tale of the Sad Raincloud” in the lobby during the reception.

Refreshments will be served in Nathan Hall immediately following.

We are grateful to St. Andrew’s Anglican Church for their outpouring of love and generosity in preparing their worship space for this service.

As a tangible expression of our thanks, please consider staying to help re-set the facilities for their regular Sunday worship, if you are able.

Coloring Sheet

This coloring sheet was designed by Gwyn for use in church services, sometime during 2017-2018. She first shared it with her sisters and friends and was overjoyed at her newfound ability to use the copy machine, hence, her attempt at labeling the "original."

Original Art by Gwyn Morgan





