

Service of Celebration of Life

Mary Middleton



August 9, 1937 – March 25, 2025

Order of Service

Prelude: Bruce Nasmith

Words of Welcome

Prayer of Invocation

Hymn: The Lord is my shepherd

1. The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want.

He makes me down to lie
in pastures green; he leadeth me
the quiet waters by.

2. My soul he doth restore again,
and me to walk doth make
within the paths of righteousness
even for his own name's sake.

3. Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,
yet will I fear none ill,
for thou art with me, and thy rod
and staff me comfort still.

4. My table thou hast furnished
in presence of my foes;
my head thou dost with oil anoint
and my cup overflows.

5. Goodness and mercy all my life
shall surely follow me
and in God's house forevermore
my dwelling place shall be.

Remembering Mary

Hymn: O God our help in ages past

1. O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home.
2. Under the shadow of thy throne thy saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is thine arm alone, and our defence is sure.
3. Before the hills in order stood, or earth received its frame,
from everlasting thou art God, to endless years the same.
4. A thousand ages in thy sight are like an evening gone,
short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.
5. Time, like an ever rolling stream, bears all our years away.
They fly forgotten, as a dream dies at the opening day.
6. O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
still be our guard while troubles last, and our eternal home.

Scripture: Psalm 139: 1-18

Luke 8: 1-3

John 14: 1-3, 18-19, 27

Meditation

Prayer of Thanksgiving & The Lord's Prayer

Hymn: Abide with me

1. Abide with me! Fast falls the eventide;
the darkness deepens, Lord, with me abide
when other helpers fail and comforts flee,
help of the helpless, oh abide with me

2. Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
earth's joys grow dim; its glories pass away;
change and decay in all around I see
O Thou who changest not, abide with me

3. I need thy presence every passing hour;
what but thy grace can foil the tempter's power?
Who like thyself my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine,
oh abide with me.

4. I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;
ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness:
where is death's sting?
Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still, if thou abide with me

5. Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes,
shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;
heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

Words of Committal

Benediction

Postlude

*Please join the Middleton family in our hall after the service for a lunch
reception.*

“She Is Gone”
By David Harkins
(Reflective and Gratitude)

You can shed tears that she is gone,
Or you can smile because she has lived.
You can close your eyes and pray that she will come back,
Or you can open your eyes and see all that she has left.
Your heart can be empty because you can't see her,
Or you can be full of the love that you shared.
You can turn your back on tomorrow and live yesterday,
Or you can be happy for tomorrow because of yesterday.
You can remember her and only that she is gone,
Or you can cherish her memory and let it live on.
You can cry and close your mind, be empty and turn your back,
Or you can do what she would want: smile, open your eyes, love and go
on.

MARY MIDDLETON

Mary was born on August 9, 1937, on the Isle of Arran, Scotland. It was there that she met the love of her life, Bill. Arran remained a special and cherished place in her heart throughout her lifetime.

In 1978, Mary and Bill immigrated to Toronto. Mary was a stay-at-home mom until she joined the Bell Canada Credit Union as a loan officer. She enjoyed work life so much that, after her retirement from Bell Canada, she continued to work at a funeral home for several years.

Family, faith, and friends were central to Mary's life. She loved a good cup of strong tea, cuddles with her grand-dog, hugs from her granddaughter Izzy, watching *Jeopardy!*, doing crosswords, baking shortbread, and enjoying lunches with friends.

She had a brave and gracious spirit, and was a faithful and loving daily visitor to her dear Bill.

Let us carry forward the love, kindness, and wisdom Mary shared with us.