

First Congregational United Church of Christ
Grand Marais, MN



Celebration of Life for Bob Carter
March 18, 2023

CELEBRATE THE LIFE OF Bob Carter

Pastor: Rev. Enno K. Limvere

Soloist & Pianist: Karina Roth

Prelude ---

Opening sentences

Leader: Hear the promises of God.

People: **We will listen well for in them is found eternal life.**

Leader: I am the resurrection and the life; all who believe in me though they die yet shall they live and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die. Fear not I am with you, be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my victorious hand.

People: **We accept God's strength. We accept Christ's victory and by faith we believe.**

Processional Hymn #42 "O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

CHARLES WESLEY, 1707-1788

CARL G. GLÄSER, 1784-1829
Arr. by LOWELL MASON, 1792-1872

1. O for a thou-sand tongues to sing My great Re-deem-er's praise,
2. My gra-cious Mas-ter and my God, As-sist me to pro-claim,
3. Je-sus! the Name that charms our fears, That bids our sor-rows cease,
4. He speaks, and, lis-tening to His voice, New life the dead re-ceive;

The glo-ries of my God and King, The tri-umphs of His grace!
To spread thro' all the earth a-broad The hon-ors of Thy Name.
'Tis mu-sic in the sin-ner's ears, 'Tis life, and health, and peace.
The mourn-ful, bro-ken hearts re-joyce; The hum-ble poor be-lieve. A-MEN.

Words of Comfort

Prayer of Invocation (in unison)

Holy loving God, your ways are not our ways and your thoughts are not our thoughts, grant that your Holy Spirit may intercede for us with sighs too deep for human words. Heal our hearts made heavy by our sorrow. Through the veil of our tears, and the silence of our emptiness, assure us again that ear has not heard, nor eye seen, nor human imagination envisioned, what you have prepared for those who love you; through Jesus Christ, the first born from the dead. Amen.

Scripture and Readings: Psalm 139:1-18, 23-24 and Psalm 23

Psalm 139

¹ O LORD, you have searched me and known me. ² You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away. ³ You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways. ⁴ Even before a word is on my tongue, O LORD, you know it completely. ⁵ You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me. ⁶ Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it. ⁷ Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence? ⁸ If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there. ⁹ If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea, ¹⁰ even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast. ¹¹ If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me, and night wraps itself around me," ¹² even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day, for darkness is as light to you. ¹³ For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well. ¹⁵ My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. ¹⁶ Your eyes beheld my unformed substance. In your book were written all the days that were formed for me, when none of them as yet existed. ¹⁷ How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them! ¹⁸ I try to count them—they are more than the sand; I come to the end^[c]—I am still with you. ²³ Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts. ²⁴ See if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

A Paraphrase of Psalm 23

God has walked with me, I could ask nothing more.
God has given me green meadows to laugh in,
Clear streams to think beside, untrodden paths to explore.
When I thought the world rested on my shoulders,
God put things in perspective.
When I lashed out at an unfair world, God calmed me down.
When I drifted into harmful ways, God straightened me out.
God was with me all the way.

I do not know what lies ahead, but I am not afraid. I know you will be with me.
 Even in death, I will not despair. You will comfort and support me.
 Though my eye dims and my mind dulls, You will continue to care about me.
 Your touch will soothe the tension in my temples; My fears will fade away.
 I am content.

“In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with me”
 All through life I have found goodness in people.

When life ends, I expect to be gathered into the ultimate goodness of God

Hymn #237 “In the Garden”

The musical score is written in 6/8 time with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). It consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are as follows:

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

Refrain
 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.

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.

*Words of Remembrance – Jim Carter, Sarah Kostohryz, Bob Faraone,
and Emma Walker*

Gospel Philippians 4:4-9

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. ⁸ Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹ As for the things that you have learned and received and heard and noticed in me, do them, and the God of peace will be with you.

Meditation Let your gentleness be known

Special Music “Be Not Afraid” (Bob Dufford)

Leader: Let us say again what we believe.

People: **We believe there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, that God works for good with those who love God. We are sure that neither death nor life, nor angels, nor powers, nor height nor depths, nor anything in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ.**

Prayers and Lord’s Prayer —

Our Father, Mother God, 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. Amen

Closing Hymn “O When the Saints Go Marching In”

O WHEN THE SAINTS GO MARCHING IN

WHEN THE SAINTS
African American spiritual
Adapt. Carlton R. Young

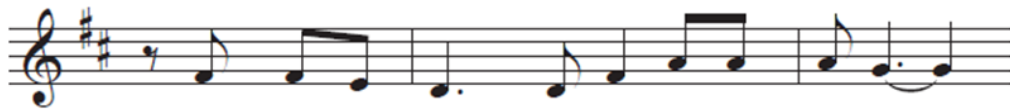
African American spiritual



1. O when the saints go march - ing in,
2. O when the sun re - fused to shine,
3. O when the trum - pet sounds its call,
4. And when they crown you Lord of all,



O when the saints go march - ing in,
O when the sun re - fused to shine,
O when the trum - pet sounds its call,
O when they crown you Lord of all,



O Lord, I want to be in that num - ber
O Lord, I want to be in that num - ber
Lord, how I want to be in that num - ber
O Lord, I want to be in that num - ber



when the saints go march - ing in.
when the sun re - fused to shine.
when the trum - pet sounds its call.
when they crown you Lord of all.

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Benediction

Recessional "Beautiful World" John Prine

In Christ Alone

by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

*In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light, my strength, my song
This cornerstone, this solid ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love, what depths of peace
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease
My comforter, my all in all Here in the love of Christ I stand
No guilt in life, no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell, no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand*

Obituary for Bob Carter

Robert Eugene Carter Jr. (77) "Bob" of Grand Marais, MN passed away peacefully at his home surrounded by family on Friday, March 10, 2023 after a brief battle with cancer. He had a positive outlook and accepted God's plan for him. He was born August 2, 1945, in Albert Lea, MN to Robert E. Carter and Esther "Louise" Nelson. Bob was the eldest of four children and grew up in South Saint Paul. In high school he was Student Council President and played football and baseball. He graduated from Macalester College in 1968 and then honored his country by serving in Vietnam. Bob raised his family in South St. Paul and was involved in Rotary, Chamber of Commerce, Deacon of the First Methodist Church, a coach for youth sports. Bob was involved in the St. Paul Winter Carnival for many years, serving as Prince of the South Wind and as director of the Winter Carnival in 1992 when the ice castle was constructed.

After serving in Vietnam, Bob went into the family business, Bob Carter Ford in Inver Grove Heights, where he built a loyal clientele.

In 1998 Bob moved to Grand Marais, MN achieving his dream to live in the north woods. Bob quickly became involved in the community, acting in local plays, being an active member of AA in which he sponsored many people and helped with their journey in recovery, and was very active in First Congregational Church of Christ, as a moderator. One of his biggest joys was co-hosting a WTIP weekly radio program "The Road House" for 14 years with his dear friend, Buck Benson.

Bob started a second career as a real estate agent in Cook County. He loved working with his clients and he went above and beyond to match them with the house of their dreams. Bob and Helen were married in 2010 and enjoyed outdoor activities and working out at the Y together, as well as traveling. Bob touched many lives in so many ways. In the past two years he joined a group that met via Zoom every morning that gave him the opportunity to meet many people with similar interests and became close friends,

Bob and Helen escaped the MN winters heading to Jekyll Island, Georgia, where they enjoyed golfing, biking, beach going and found a group of dear friends to enrich their lives.

Bob is survived by his loving spouse, Helen, his children, Sarah (Dan) Kostohryz and grandchildren Emma Walker, Loki Walker, and Henry Walker; and Adam (Jennifer) Carter and grandchildren Morgan Carter, Signe Carter, Lauren Bartl and Ryan Bartl; and his siblings, Mary Albert, Jim Carter (Victoria) and Jan Detmar, and many nieces and nephews, as well as many loving friends.

A celebration of Bob's life will be held at the First United Congregational Church of Christ in Grand Marais March 18th, 2023, at 1 pm. Memorials to benefit causes close to Bob's heart are the American Cancer Society or the Cook County YMCA.