

THE CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF
MARTHA JEAN BOHANNAN



NOVEMBER 12, 2009

10:30AM

TRANSFIGURATION EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Rev. Coryl Lassen
The Rev. Channing R. Smith
The Rev. Frances Tornquist
The Rev. Davidson Bidwell-Waite

Musicians

Joseph Hansen, Pianist

The Bay Area Showcase Chorus
Julie Starr, Director

The Daytimers
Judie Wykoff, Director
Nancy Keane,

THE CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF
MARTHA JEAN BOHANNAN

March 16, 1931 - November 4, 2009

PIANO PRELUDE

“Higher Ground”

Steve Dorff, George Green, Kent Agee

recording by Barbra Streisand

OPENING ANTHEM

All stand while the following anthems are said.

Presider

I am Resurrection and I am Life, says the Lord.

Whoever has faith in me shall have life,

even though he die.

And everyone who has life,

and has committed himself to me in faith,

shall not die for ever.

As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives

and that at the last he will stand upon the earth.

After my awaking, he will raise me up;

and in my body I shall see God.

I myself shall see, and my eyes behold him

who is my friend and not a stranger.

For none of us has life in himself,

and none becomes his own master when he dies.

For if we have life, we are alive in the Lord,

and if we die, we die in the Lord.

So, then, whether we live or die,

we are the Lord's possession.

Happy from now on
are those who die in the Lord!
So it is, says the Spirit,
for they rest from their labors.

The Presider then says

People The Lord be with you.
Celebrant **And also with you.**
Let us pray.

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you this day our sister Jean. We thank you for giving her to us, her family and friends, to know and to love as a companion on our earthly pilgrimage. In your boundless compassion, console us who mourn. Give us faith to see in death the gate of eternal life, so that in quiet confidence we may continue our course on earth, until, by your call, we are reunited with those who have gone before; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

A READING TO BILL:

If I should ever leave you whom I love
To go along the Silent Way, grieve not,
Nor Speak of me with tears,
but laugh and talk
Of me as if I were beside you there.
(I'd come—I'd come, could I but find a way!
But would not tears and grief be barriers?)
And when you hear a song or see a bird
I loved, please do not let the thought of me
be sad...For I am loving you just as
I always have... You were so good to me!

There are so many things to say to you...

Remember that I did not fear... It was
Just leaving you that was so hard to face...

We cannot see Beyond... But this I know:

I LOVE YOU SO -

'T WAS HEAVEN HERE WITH YOU!

- Isla Paschal Richardson

PSALM 23

We remain seated and say the words of the psalm together.

The Lord is my shepherd;

I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures;

he leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul;

he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his
Name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of
death,

I will fear no evil;

for thou art with me;

thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.

Thou preparast a table before me in the presence of
mine enemies;

thou anointest my head with oil;

my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days
of my life,

and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

recording by Barbra Streisand

READINGS

I'm Glad You're In My Dash

Unknown

I read of a man who stood to speak at the funeral of a friend. He referred to the dates on her tombstone from the beginning to the end. He noted that first came her date of birth and spoke the following date with tears, but said what mattered most of all was the dash between those years. (1931-2009)

For that dash represents all the time that she spent alive on earth and now only those who loved her, know what that little line is worth.

For it matters not, how much we own; the cars, the house the cash, What matters is how we live and love and how we spend our dash. So think about this long and hard — are these things you'd like to change?

For you never know how much time is left, that can still be rearranged.

If we could just slow down enough to consider what's true and real, and always try to understand the way other people feel.

And be less quick to anger and show appreciation more, and love the people in our lives like we've never loved before.

If we treat each other with respect and more often wear a smile remembering that this special dash might only last a little while.

So, when your eulogy's being read with your life's actions to rehash...

Would you be proud of the things they say about how you spend your dash?

I would have talked less and listened more. I would have invited friends over to dinner even if the carpet was stained, or the sofa faded. I would have eaten popcorn in the “good” living room and worried much less about the dirt when someone wanted to light a fire in the fireplace. I would have taken the time to listen to my grandfather ramble about his youth. I would never have insisted the car windows be rolled up on a summer day because my hair had just been teased and sprayed. I would have burned the pink candle sculpted like a rose before it melted in storage. I would have sat on the lawn with my children and not worried about grass stains.

I would have cried and laughed less while watching television — and more while watching life. I would have shared more of the responsibility carried by my husband. I would have gone to bed when I was sick instead of pretending the earth would go into a holding pattern if I weren't there for a day. I would never have bought anything just because it was practical, wouldn't show soil, or was guaranteed to last a lifetime. Instead of wishing away nine months of pregnancy, I'd have cherished every moment and realized that the wonderment growing inside me was the only chance in life to assist God in a miracle. When my kids kissed me impetuously, I would never have said, “Later. Now go get washed up for dinner.” There would have been more “I love you's”... more “I'm sorry's”... But mostly, given another shot at life, I would seize every minute... look at it and really see it... live it... and never give it back. Stop sweating the small stuff. Don't worry about who doesn't like you, who has more, or who's doing what. Instead, let's cherish the relationships we have with those who do love us. Let's think about what God HAS blessed us with. And what we are doing each day to promote ourselves mentally, physically, emotionally, as well as spiritually. Life is too short to let it pass you by. We only have one shot at this and then it's gone. I hope you all have a blessed day.

All stand.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John
People **Glory to thee, O Lord.**

‘Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.’ Thomas said to him, ‘Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?’ Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

People The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The People sit.

“Lessons To Be Learned”

Allan Rich, Dorothy Sea Gazeley,
 Marsha Malamet

recording by Barbra Streisand

REMEMBRANCES:

“Several Years Ago...”

Nancy Keane

Recording of Judie Wycoff

HOMILY

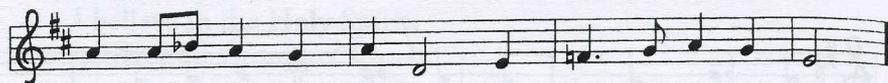
The Rev. Channing R. Smith

On Eagle's Wings
Sung by congregation

Michael Joncas (b. 1951)



1 You who dwell in the shel-ter of the Lord, who a-bide in this shad-ow for life,



say to the Lord: "My ref - uge, my rock in whom I trust!"

Refrain

All



And he will raise you up on ea-gle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,



make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.



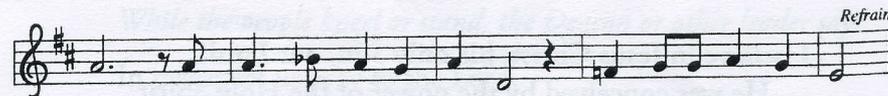
2 The snare of the fowl-er will nev-er cap-ture you, and fam-ine will bring you no



fear; un-der God's wings your ref-uge, with faith-ful-ness your shield.



3 You need not fear the ter-ror of the night, nor the ar-row that flies by



day; though thou-sands fall a - bout you, near you it shall not come.



4 For to the an-gels God's giv-en a com-mand to



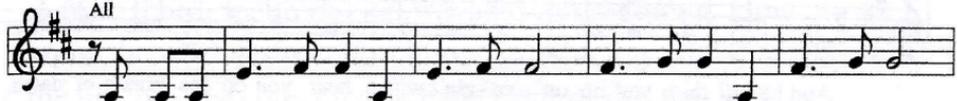
guard you in all of your ways; up-on their hands they will



bear you up, lest you dash your foot a-gainst a stone.

Final refrain

All



And he will raise you up on ea-gle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,



make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.



And hold you, hold you in the palm of his hand.

THE CREED

Presider

In the assurance of eternal life given at Baptism, let us proclaim our faith and say,

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit

And born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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,
for ever and ever. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

While the people kneel or stand, the Deacon or other leader says

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Almighty God, who hast knit together thine elect in one

communion and fellowship, in the mystical body of thy Son Christ our Lord: Grant, we beseech thee, to thy whole Church in paradise and on earth, thy light and thy peace.
People Amen.

Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to newness of life, and that through the grave and gate of death we may pass with him to our joyful resurrection. **Amen.**

Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith, that thy Holy Spirit may lead us in holiness and righteousness all our days. **Amen.**

Grant to thy faithful people pardon and peace, that we may be cleansed from all our sins, and serve thee with a quiet mind. **Amen.**

Grant to all who mourn a sure confidence in thy fatherly care, that, casting all their grief on thee, they may know the consolation of thy love. **Amen.**

Give courage and faith to those who are bereaved, that they may have strength to meet the days ahead in the comfort of a reasonable and holy hope, in the joyful expectation of eternal life with those they love. **Amen.**

Grant us grace to entrust Jean to thy never-failing love; receive her into the arms of thy mercy, and remember her according to the favor which thou bearest unto thy people. **Amen.**

Grant that, increasing in knowledge and love of thee, she may go from strength to strength in the life of perfect service in thy heavenly kingdom. **Amen.**

Grant us, with all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, to have our consummation and bliss in thy eternal and everlasting glory, and, with all thy saints, to receive the crown of life which thou dost promise to all who share in the victory of thy Son Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE COMMENDATION

This anthem, or some other suitable anthem, or a hymn, may be sung or said

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

You only are immortal, the creator and maker of humankind; and we are mortal, formed of the earth, and to the 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.

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

The Presider says

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Jean. 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.**

"If I Could" Ronald L. Miller, Kenny Hirsch, Martha V. Sharron
recording by Barbra Streisand

To my Children:

If I could, I'd protect you from the sadness in your eyes
Give you courage in a world of compromise
Yes I would, if I could
I would teach you all the things I've never learned
And I'd help you cross the bridges that I've burned
Yes I would, if I could
I would share your innocence from time
But the part of life I gave you isn't mine
I've watched you grow, so I could let you go.

If I could, I would help you make it through the hungry years
But I know that I can never cry your tears
But I would, if I could.
If I live in a time or place where you don't want to be
You don't have to walk along this road with me
My yesterday won't have to be your way.
If I knew I'd have tried to change the world I brought you to
And there isn't very much that I can do
But I would, if I could

*I love you,
-Mom*

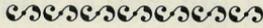
THE BLESSING AND THE DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
Alleluia, Alleluia.

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

"Thank you for the Music" sung by The Bay Area Showcase Chorus
"How We Sang Today"

"Bed is Too Small" sung by The Daytimers
"Friends"



To My Husband, Bill,

Through all your dealings with people, both privately and professionally, you have earned a reputation as an honest, kind and hard working man who is the very definition of sincerity and integrity. You have helped many people with no thought of yourself and you are a devoted husband and father. I am so proud of you.

Sometimes I wondered what my world would have been like without you at the center of it. I wondered how I'd get by without your love, your support, or the many thoughtful things you always did for me. You opened up so many wonderful adventures for us and what fun we had. You are the strong and steady presence that I always counted on.

You brought me more happiness and joy than I could have ever hoped for and I want you to know how grateful I am for you and your love. I will miss you...

I love you.

- *Jean*