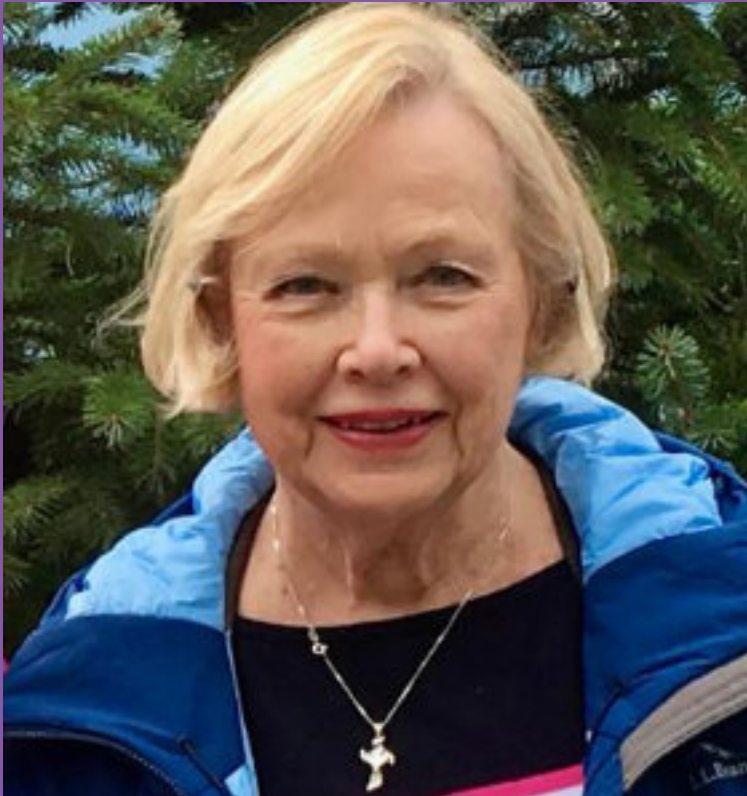


Celebration of Life
JEANETTE LENORE STOLEE NELSON

September 12, 1927– September 2, 2026



*A beautiful light has gone out on earth
to shine even brighter in heaven.*

Celebration of Life

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September 12, 1927– September 2, 2026

PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME

✧ GATHERING ✧

Welcome in the name of Jesus, the Savior of the world.

We are gathered to worship, to proclaim Christ crucified and risen, to remember before God our sister Jeanette, to give thanks for her life, to commend her to our merciful Redeemer, and to comfort one another in our grief. **Amen.**

+ THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

When we were baptized in Christ Jesus, we were baptized into his death. We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live a new life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.

Eternal God, maker of heaven and earth, who formed us from the dust of the earth, who by your breath gave us life, we glorify you.

We glorify you.

Jesus Christ, the resurrection and the life, who suffered death for all humanity, who rose from the grave to open the way to eternal life, we praise you. **We praise you.**

Holy Spirit, author and giver of life, the comforter of all who sorrow, our sure confidence and everlasting hope, we worship you.

We worship you.

To you, O blessed Trinity, be glory and honor, forever and ever.
Amen.

+ **GATHERING HYMN** “*Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer*” ELW #618

+ **APOSTOLIC GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

+ **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you today our sister Jeanette. We thank you for giving her to us to know and to love as a companion in our pilgrimage on earth. In your boundless compassion, console us who mourn. Give us faith to see that death has been swallowed up in the victory of our Lord Jesus Christ, so that we may live in confidence and hope until we are gathered to our heavenly home in the company of all your saints; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

✠ **WORD** ✠

READING Romans 8:35-39

read by Alissa Nelson Struble

A reading from Romans.

³⁵Who will separate us from the love of Christ?
Will affliction or distress or persecution or famine
or nakedness or peril or sword? ³⁶As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than victorious through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

- ¹ I lift up my eyes to the hills—
from where will my help come?
² **My help comes from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.**
³ He will not let your foot be moved;
he who keeps you will not slumber.
⁴ **He who keeps Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.**
⁵ The LORD is your keeper;
the LORD is your shade at your right hand.
⁶ **The sun shall not strike you by day
nor the moon by night.**
⁷ The LORD will keep you from all evil;
he will keep your life.
⁸ **The LORD will keep
your going out and your coming in
from this time on and forevermore.**

REFLECTIONS

*offered by Mark Nelson, Brad & Krista Nelson Arnold,
and Connie Nelson & Marilyn Nelson*

ANTHEM

"It is Well With My Soul"

arr. Mary McDonald

*sung by Addie, Dan, & Sam Nelson, and
Ruth Bauer*

+ HOLY GOSPEL

John 14:1-6

read by Amy Featherstone

A reading from the gospel of John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹⁴ "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ² 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? ³ 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. ⁴ And you know the way to the place 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.

The gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

HOMILY

Pastor Phil Rund

+ HYMN OF THE DAY *"Children of the Heavenly Father"* ELW #781

THE PRAYERS

Good and gracious God, we pray for your church. Nurture in your people faith and commitment like Jeanette's. We give thanks for her understanding of church beyond congregation, and her willingness to bring her family to build up Bethel when it was struggling. We give thanks for all the ways she served, big and small - from leading as council president to saving seats for others in worship. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the well-being of creation. We give thanks for cabins: how they help us enjoy nature, sabbath, and reset our rhythms. We give thanks for rivers and lakes, and especially for Crow Wing #11. Help us stay connected with nature, with each other, and with you. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for peace and justice in the world. We give thanks for Jeanette's keen observations and learnings from all her experiences - the depression, living with her aunties, having a pharmacist father and professor grandfather, then working in publishing, managing a construction office, and tackling real estate - and also volunteering with the PEO organization, giving rides, or cooking meals for others.

In whatever we do, may we too cultivate the curiosity, reflection, and compassion that makes such a difference in our communities. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for families. We give thanks for the partnerships like Jeanette and Arnie had, that set a shining example of faith and love. We give thanks for the joy Jeanette found as a mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother and all the ways she found to maintain and build connection, writing letters and always offering gracious hospitality from setting a gorgeous table, making a bed with hospital corners, or baking legendary cookies and "King's favorite" bars. Bless and guide us all in our commitment to and care of one another. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who are sick and lonely. We give thanks for Jeanette's courage talking about hardship and pain, encouraging others to share and allow you to provide comfort and care through other people. Help us to trust in and feel your presence in the same way. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who mourn. Surround this family and all Jeanette's friends with your love, that we might lean on you in our loss, have confidence in your goodness, and strength to meet the days to come. May our memories bless and inspire us. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through Jesus Christ our Savior. **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 forever. Amen.**

✠ SENDING ✠

+ COMMENDATION

Let us commend Jeanette to the mercy of God, our maker and redeemer.

Into your hands, O merciful Savior,
we commend your servant Jeanette.

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.**

+ BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☐ you peace. **Amen.**

+ DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you. **Amen.**

We sing our farewell to this beloved member of our community.

+ SENDING HYMN *"Beautiful Savior"* ELW #838

POSTLUDE *"Toccata from Symphony No. 5"* Charles-Marie Widor
You are invited to a reception in the Christian Life Center.



*a favorite view from Jeanette's beloved cabin on Crow Wing #11
by son-in-law Jim Bolton*



Pastor Inger Hanson

Pastors
Pastor Phil Ruud

Pastor Ben Schori

organ & piano
Megan Engel