

A Celebration of Life

Ruby Ray Gergens



October 10, 1934 – May 14, 2021

June 23, 2021
Calvary Lutheran Church
Richland Hills, TX


*Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.
Isaiah 6:1*

P Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the source of all mercy and the God of all consolation, who comforts us in all our sorrows so that we can comfort others in their sorrows with the consolation we ourselves have received from God.

C Thanks be to God.

P 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.


Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound



1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
4 The Lord has prom - ised good to his
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



now am found; was blind, but now I see.
grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt., sts. 1–4; anonymous, st. 5
Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P O God of grace and glory, we remember before you today our sister Ruby. 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 all 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, by your call, we are gathered to our heavenly home in the company of all your saints; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

The 23rd Psalm – spoken in unison

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 preparest 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 forever.

Remembrances of Ruby

JoHanna Hogan -granddaughter

Were You There



- 1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
- 2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
- 3 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
- 4 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
- 5 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?



Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?



Oh, some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.



Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Text: African American spiritual
Music: WERE YOU THERE, African American spiritual

Matthew 25

³⁴Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; ³⁵for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' ³⁷Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' ⁴⁰And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.'

The Homily

On a Hill Far Away *The Old Rugged Cross*



1 On a hill far a - way stood an old rug-ged cross,
2 Oh, that old rug-ged cross so de - spised by the world,
3 In the old rug-ged cross, stained with blood so di - vine,
4 To the old rug-ged cross I will ev - er be true,



the em - blem of suf - f'ring and shame;
has a won - drous at - trac - tion for me;
a won - drous beau - ty I see;
its shame and re - proach glad - ly bear;



and I love that old cross where the dear - est and best
for the dear Lamb of God left his glo - ry a - bove,
for 'twas on that old cross Je - sus suf - fered and died,
Christ will call me some day to my home far a - way,



for a world of lost sin - ners was slain.
to . . . bear it to dark Cal - va - ry.
to . . . par - don and sanc - ti - fy me.
where his glo - ry for - ev - er I'll share.



So I'll cher - ish the old rug - ged cross, till my



tro - phies at last I lay down; I will cling to the old rug-ged



cross, and ex - change it some day for a crown.

Text: George Bennard, 1873–1958

Music: THE OLD RUGGED CROSS, George Bennard, 1873–1958

The Creed

- P** We confess the faith of the church throughout the ages, the faith Ruby lived and the faith in which she died.
- C** **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 into hell. 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

The Prayers

- P** Almighty God, in holy baptism you have knit your chosen people together into one communion of saints in the body of Christ. Give to your whole church in heaven and on earth your light and your peace. God of mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Give courage and faith to all who mourn, and a sure and certain hope in your loving care, that, casting all their sorrow on you, they may have strength for the days ahead. God of mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith, that, where this world groans in grief and pain, your Holy Spirit may lead us to bear witness to your light and life. God of mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** God of all grace, we give you thanks because by his death our Savior Jesus Christ destroyed the power of death and by his resurrection he opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. Make us certain that because he lives we shall live also, and that neither death nor life, nor things present nor things to come, will be able to separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you

P Lift up your hearts

C We lift them to the Lord

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

C It is right to give our thanks and praise

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

Distribution of Holy Communion

The Post Communion Blessing

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

C Amen.

I'll Fly Away

Some glad morning when this life is o'er I'll fly away
To a home on God's celestial shore I'll fly away

I'll fly away, O glory I'll fly away
When I die, hallelujah by and by
I'll fly away

When the shadows of this life have grown I'll fly away
like a bird from prison bars has flown I'll fly away

Just a few more weary days and then I'll fly away
To a home where joy shall never end I'll fly away

The inurnment

P Let us pray. Faithful God, Lord of all creation, you desire that nothing redeemed by your Son will ever be lost, and that those claimed by Christ will be raised up on the last day. Comfort us today with the word of your promise as we place the ashes of our sister Ruby in this sacred space. Grant her a place of rest and peace where death has no dominion. Confirm us in our hope that she will be created anew on the day when you will raise her up in glory to live with you and all the saints for ever and ever. Amen.

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to almighty God our sister Ruby,
earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust.

The Lord bless her and keep her.

The Lord's face shine on her with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon her with favor and ☩ give her/him peace.

Amen.



The Reverend Phillip Heinze
The Reverend Kyle Rouze
Debbie Villavicencio, organ/piano



Ruby was born on October 10, 1934, to Raymond and Birdie Poplin in Princeton, Texas. The family moved to Grand Prairie in 1942 and she called that home from then on. Ruby never met a stranger, she would always approach someone new with "Hi, I'm Ruby." She was married for 36 years to Delbert Wayne (D.W.) Jones who passed in 1989.

While working at Nissan Motor Acceptance Corporation (NMAC) Ruby met her husband, Steve, with whom she celebrated their silver anniversary last year. They always acknowledged the fact that they completed each other. They worked hard together to build a flourishing retirement.

After retirement the two of them enjoyed three vacations per year one of which would be a cruise. Ruby also enjoyed attending the Dallas Summer Musicals at Fair Park.

After retiring from NMAC in 2004 she began quilting full-time. She enjoyed the time she spent hand quilting with the group and was a stickler on the number of stitches per inch on her quilts. She also loved to color using crayons, pencils and markers.

Ruby is survived by her husband Steve, children Debra Guhl (Phil), Kim Knight, Steve Gergens Jr (Wendy), Greg Gergens (Jamie) and Ben Gergens (Alex). As well as 15 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.