

A Celebration of Life Lilla Safford Willey

February 8th, 1920 – September 3rd, 2021



September 11th, 2021, 2PM
The First Congregational Church in Thetford, UCC
Rev. Robin Junker-Boyce, Pastor

Service Participants

*Rev. Junker Boyce, Pastor, First Congregational Church in
Thetford, VT*

*Nicky Corrao, soloist, member of First Congregational Church in
Thetford, VT and dear friend of Lilla*

*Charlie Buttrey, pianist, member First Congregational Church in
Thetford, VT and dear friend of Lilla*

*Rev. Timothy Browning Safford, Rector, Christ Church
Philadelphia and nephew of Lilla*

Matt Barrett, reader, Lilla Willey's Grandson

Ted Barrett, reader, Lilla Willey's Son-in-Law

Musical Offering Participants on Recordings

Diane Mellinger, Music Director
North Universalist Chapel Society, Woodstock, VT*

*North Chapel Choir
North Universalist Chapel Society, Woodstock, VT*

**The flute player in both music pieces is Diane Mellinger.
The guitar player for music selections is Don Ransom, a gifted
musician/singer now living in WA & a member (through zoom) of
our North Chapel Choir.*

Prelude *Tho I May Speak with Bravest Fire*
North Chapel Choir

Greeting Rev. Robin Junker

Opening Hymn *Joyful Joyful We Adore Thee vs 1-3* NCH#4

Prayer of Gratitude

Musical Offering *What A Wonderful World*
Nicky Corrao, soloist
Accompanied by Charlie Buttrey

Readings
Psalm 23 Matt Barrett, reader
John 10:27-30 Ted Barrett, reader

Words of Remembrance from Family

Eulogy Rev. Timothy Safford

Musical Offering *Simple Gifts* Shaker Hymn
North Chapel Choir

Sharing Memories of Lilla

Closing Hymn *O God Our Help In Ages Past* NCH#25

Silence

Benediction

Postlude *Wayfarin Strange and Texas Waltz*
North Chapel Choir

GOD

4

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You

Ps. 145:10; Isa. 49:13

Henry van Dyke, 1907; alt.

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore you, God of glo - ry, God of love;
2 All your works with joy sur-round you, earth and heaven re - flect your rays,
3 You are giv - ing and for-giv - ing, ev - er bless-ing, ev - er blessed,
4 Mor-tals, join the might-y cho - rus which the morn-ing stars be - gan;

Hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore you, open-ing to the sun a - bove.
Stars and an - gels sing a - round you, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
Well-spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean depth of hap - py rest!
Bound-less love is reign-ing o'er us, re - con - cil - ing race and clan.

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the storms of doubt a - way;
Field and for - est, vale and moun-tain, flower-y mead-ow, flash-ing sea,
Lov - ing Spir - it, Fa - ther, Moth - er, all who love be - long to you;
Ev - er sing - ing, move we for - ward, faith - ful in the midst of strife,

Giv - er of im - mor-tal glad-ness, fill us with the light of day.
Chant-ing bird and flow-ing foun-tain, teach us what our praise should be.
Teach us how to love each oth - er, by that love our joy re - new.
Joy - ful mu - sic leads us on - ward in the tri - umph song of life.

Henry van Dyke was a noted church leader, U.S. ambassador, Navy chaplain, and prolific writer. Many people associate this hymn with Beethoven's ninth symphony, but few are aware of the original poem by the German classicist F. Schiller (1759-1805) that inspired Beethoven.

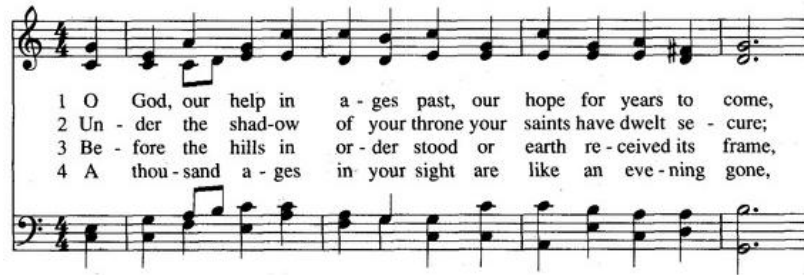
Tune: HYMN TO JOY 8.7.8.7.D.
Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824
Adapt. and harm. Edward Hodges, 1846

O God, Our Help in Ages Past


25

Isaac Watts, 1719; alt.

Ps. 90:1-2, 4-5



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,
2 Un - der the shad-ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se - cure;
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood or earth re - ceived its frame,
4 A thou - sand a - ges in your sight are like an eve - ning gone,



Our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
Suf - fi - cient is your arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
From ev - er - last - ing you are God, to end - less years the same.
Short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

5 Time, like an ev - er - roll - ing stream,
soon bears us all away;
We fly for - got - ten, as a dream
fades at the o - pening day.

6 O God, our help in a - ges past,
our hope for years to come,
Still be our God while trou - bles last,
and our e - ter - nal home!

Watts, minister of a Congregational church in London, wrote theological and philosophical works and hundreds of "hymns of human composure" (everyday language). He augmented the congregational singing of psalms with a new style of hymnody.

Tune: ST. ANNE C.M.
William Croft, 1708



L to R Lilla, Alice Hebb, Sue Williams

*Lilla's family extends
their heartfelt gratitude to
their wonderful community of friends and to the
First Congregational Church in Thetford,
for all the support and love of Lilla during her life in Thetford.*