

**CELEBRATION OF LIFE AND
SERVICE OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL**

Louise E. Lovelady

January 31, 2018 10:00 am



The Word of God

Opening Anthem

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.

Prayers

Officiant The Lord be with you

People **And also with you**

Officiant Let us Pray

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you this day our sister Louise. 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.

Most merciful God, whose wisdom is beyond our understanding: Deal graciously with Donald, Mary, Betty, Eldwin, and all of Louise's family and friends in their grief. Surround them with your love, that they may not be overwhelmed by their loss, but have

confidence in your goodness, and strength to meet the days to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Please join me in reading Psalm 23

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 for
ever.**

First Reading Revelation 7.9-17

A reading from the Revelation to John

I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

“Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing,

“Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might
be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?” I said to him, “Sir, you are the one that knows.” Then he said to me, “These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

For this reason they are before the throne of God,
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter
them.

They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat;
for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their
shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of
life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

Hymn *Amazing Grace* *Emily Lovelady*

Gospel Reading John 14.1-6

A reading from the Gospel according to John
Jesus told his disciples, “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.

The Homily

The Rev Eldwin Lovelady

The Lord's Prayer

Officiant:

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

All say together:

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

For our sister Louise, let us pray to our Lord Jesus Christ who said, “I am Resurrection and I am Life.”

Lord, you consoled Martha and Mary in their distress; draw near to us who mourn for Louise, and dry the tears of those who weep.

Hear us, Lord.

You wept at the grave of Lazarus, your friend; comfort us in our sorrow.

Hear us, Lord.

You raised the dead to life; give to our brother (sister) eternal life.

Hear us, Lord.

You promised paradise to the thief who repented; bring our sister to the joys of heaven.

Hear us, Lord.

Our sister was washed in Baptism and anointed with the Holy Spirit; give her fellowship with all your saints.

Hear us, Lord.

Comfort us in our sorrows at the death of our sister; let our faith be our consolation, and eternal life our hope.

Hear us, Lord.

Silence may be kept.

The Celebrant concludes with one of the following or some other prayer

Father of all, we pray to you for Louise, and for all those whom we love but see no longer. Grant to them eternal rest. Let light perpetual shine upon them. May her soul and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. *Amen.*

The Commendation

The Officiant and other ministers take their places at the body.

Officiant

Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with your saints,

People

**where sorrow and pain are no more,
neither sighing, but life everlasting.**

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

People

**Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with your
saints,**

**where sorrow and pain are no more,
neither sighing, but life everlasting.**

The Commendation Prayer

said by the Officiant

The Celebrant, facing the body, says

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

The Blessing and Dismissal

May God the Father bless you, God the Son heal you, God the Holy Spirit give you strength. May God the Holy Trinity guard your body and save your soul and bring you to that heavenly city where God lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

OR – Brother Paul says a benediction

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

The people respond

Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia

Burial follows immediately at [Mulbearn Memorial Park Cemetery](#), HWY 80 East. You are welcome to join the motor procession to the Cemetery.

The Committal at Graveside

The Officiant says an appropriate Anthem

Everyone the Father gives to me will come to me;
I will never turn away anyone who believes in me.

He who raised Jesus Christ from the dead
will also give new life to our mortal bodies
through his indwelling Spirit.

My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;
my body also shall rest in hope.

You will show me the path of life;
in your presence there is fullness of joy,
and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

*While earth is cast upon the coffin, the Officiant says the
Committal*

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal
life through our Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to
Almighty God our sister Louise, and we commit her
body to the ground; earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust
to dust. The Lord bless her and keep her, the Lord
make his face to shine upon her and be gracious to
her, the Lord lift up his countenance upon her and
give her peace.

The People respond **Amen.**

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray

All say together:

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 Officiant says a blessing. The people respond, **Amen.***

Rest eternal grant to *him*, O Lord;

And let light perpetual shine upon him.

May *his* soul, and the souls of all the departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace. *Amen.*

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant: Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Louise Edna Lovelady – June 30, 1926 – January 26, 2017

Louise crossed over Jordan and entered the Pearly gates on January 26th, surrounded by love of family and friends. She was born Edna Louise Manes, first child of Alton and Bernice Manes, in Plumerville, Arkansas on June 30, 1926. She married the love of her life, Earnest William Lovelady on July 9, 1944. In their 52 years together they raised 4 children, Eldwin Lovelady (wife Deborah), of Olympia, Washington, Betty Harmon of Smackover, Arkansas, Mary Carter (husband Allen), of Collinsville, Oklahoma and Donald Lovelady (wife Vickie) of Monroe, Louisiana. Earnest died on Oct 24, 1996. Louise has 9 surviving grandchildren, 17 great grandchildren, and 2 great-great grandchildren.

Louise graduated from Plumerville High School in 1943 and began Nursing school at St. Vincent's Hospital in Little Rock. When she married Earnest, she was forced to leave nursing school as married or pregnant women were not allowed to remain in school. Earnest's military service took them to Texas, Louisiana, and Germany. After military service they

lived in Tulsa, Oklahoma and settled in Monroe in 1960.

Louise was a charter member of North Monroe Baptist church and later became a member of Grace Missionary Baptist Church where she served as musician and Earnest as a Deacon and Treasurer. After Earnest's death, she became the Treasurer and continued to play piano for worship. She was faithful in her ministry with children, leading Sunday school and Vacation Bible school for many years. She continued to play piano even when she began to use a wheelchair.

Louise is a true Saint of God, touching her children and family and the people around her with God's love and grace. In 1989 she returned to nursing school, graduated and worked at Glenwood Regional Medical Center in West Monroe for 21 years, retiring in 1970. Louise was a good neighbor, loved by her community and a strong positive influence on the neighborhood and church children. Her grandchildren and great grands were the delight of her life especially in her retirement years. Louise is greatly missed by her family and friends; the light seems a little dimmer as a

Saint of The Light moves into Eternity in the nearer presence of God.

In lieu of flowers the family requests memorial gifts to Louisiana Hospice and Palliative Care or Grace Missionary Baptist Church of North Monroe.

Officiating The Rev. Eldwin Lovelady

Singer Ms. Emily Lovelady

Reader Mr. Zachary Lovelady

Pallbearers

Mr. Zachary Lovelady

Mr. David Smith

Mr. Thomas Smith

Mr. Shawn Nason

Mr. Eddie Lovelady

Mr. Tommy Cockrell

Honorary: Mr. Aaron Smith & Mr. B. J. Emeline