Service of Witness to the Resurrection of W. Fred Graham



Eastminster Presbyterian Church East Lansing, Michigan June 19, 2021 2:00 p.m.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

* Congregation is invited to rise in body or in spirit. **Bold text** is read by the congregation. Only the last hymn will be sung by the congregation. We invite you to either hum or listen to the other hymns.

THE GATHERING

Prelude

Sentences of Scripture

Call to Worship (responsively)
Our help is in the name of the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.
Peace I leave you with; my peace I give to you.
Do not let your hearts be troubled,
and do not let them be afraid.
Praise the Lord.
The Lord's name be praised.

Hymn #610 O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing (vs. 1-4)

*Call to Confession

Let us confess our sin, trusting God's promised mercy.

*Prayer of Confession (in unison) Eternal Father, guardian of our lives: we confess that we are children of dust, unworthy of your gracious care. We have not loved as we ought to love, nor have we lived as you command, and our years are soon gone. Lord God, have mercy on us. Forgive our sin and raise us to new life, so that as long as we live we may serve you, until, dying we enter the joy of your presence; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. A time of silence

*Declaration of Pardon

*Sung Response O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing (v. 5)

THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading

Psalm 23

Scripture Readings

1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 53-58 Romans 8:31-39

Proclamation and Expressions of Gratitude

THE RESPONSE

Hymn Now, on Land and Sea Descending

Prayers of Thanksgiving and The Lord's Prayer (using debts/debtors) 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Hymn #37 Let All Things Now Living

THE SENDING

Commendation

*Hymn #65 Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah



Blessing

Postlude

After the service, please join us outside for cookies and lemonade

+++

Gifts in memory of Fred Graham may be given to:

Church World Services <u>cwsglobal.org</u>

Eastminster Presbyterian Church www.eastminsterchurch.org

The Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions <u>www.pensions.org/yourpath-to-wholeness/assistance-</u> <u>program/giving</u>

Participants in Today's Service

Rev. Kristin Stroble Pastor, Eastminster Presbyterian

Rev. Bill Pinches, Pastor, Mason First Presbyterian

> Jadrian Tarver Piano and Vocals

> Sulin Campbell *Piano and Vocals*

Sue Rosser Soprano

Eastminster Presbyterian Church 1315 Abbot Road • East Lansing, MI 48823 • (517) 337-0893 East Lansing, MI - Born in Columbus, Ohio, 31 October 1930, son of W. Fred

("Ted") and Serena (Clark) Graham. Fred graduated from Reynoldsburg High School in Reynoldsburg, Ohio, Tarkio College in Missouri, and Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. He received a master's degree from Louisville Presbyterian Seminary, and a doctorate in religious studies from the University of Iowa in 1965. An ordained minister, he served churches in Iowa, and on an interim basis in Michigan. He was a member of Lake Michigan Presbyterian (Presbyterian Church, USA) and sang in the choir at Eastminster Presbyterian Church in East Lansing, where his ashes will be interred in the church gardens.



In 1953 he was married to Jean Garrett of Braddyville, Iowa, who was his companion in ministry and during his 30 years on the faculty at Michigan State University. In addition to his Jean, he is survived by four daughters: Terese ("Terry") of East Lansing, Bonny of Champaign, Illinois, Marcy (Doug) of Kirksville, Missouri, and Geneva ("Genny") (Chris) of Vienna, Virginia. Also surviving are six grandchildren and one great granddaughter: Marcy, Reese, and Peter Havlatka, Will Murphy, and Benjamin and Samuel Looker, and Reese's daughter April. Two sisters also survive him: Grace Tanner of Columbus, Ohio, and Lucia Sims of Lawrence, Kansas.

Much of his work as a scholar was in 16th and 17th century history. He wrote books on John Calvin, on the Reformation in Scotland, as well as the sociology of religion, and served as president of the 16th Century Studies Conference. Locally, he was president of the MSU chapter of the Honors Society Phi Kappa Phi. In retirement he served as president of the Michigan State University Retirees Association. In a lighter vein, he wrote occasional pieces one running and religion, on church growth and decline, on ecumenical issues, and doggerel from the family Christmas cards.

He will be remembered as a kind man who tried to blend humor and faith in whatever he did, whether playing a game, running, singing, or teaching. He enjoyed playing golf, tennis, and softball with his friends, but was not avid at his games. He believed that nature betrayed, but did not parade, its creation and sustenance by God, and that the same God spoke to him and called him to ministry by Jesus of Nazareth.

His family are peaceful in the knowledge that he will be playing baseball with his youthful body in the hereafter on God's team.