

**Service of Witness to the Resurrection  
for  
Thelma Hadden**



**Eastminster Presbyterian Church  
East Lansing, Michigan  
March 15, 2025  
11:30 a.m.**



## **ORDER OF WORSHIP**

*\*Congregation is invited to rise in body or in spirit.*

***Bold text is read by the congregation.***

**Gathering Music**

Betty Porter, Native American Flute

**Welcome**

**Opening Prayer**

**\*Hymn #69** Here I Am, Lord

Betty Porter, Recorder

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Scripture Reading** Psalm 139:1-18

Sue Miller

**Scripture Reading** (unison) 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 forever.***

**Song** Will the Circle Be Unbroken

Matt Porter, Guitar

Will the circle be unbroken

By and by Lord, by and by

There's a better home awaiting

In the sky Lord, in the sky

I was standing by the window

On one cold and cloudy day

When I saw the hearse come rolling  
For to carry my mother away

*Chorus*

Yes, I told that undertaker  
Undertaker, please drive slow  
For this lady that you carry  
Lord, I hate to see her go

*Chorus*

Lord, I followed close behind her  
Tried to hold up and be brave  
But I could not hide my sorrow  
When they laid her in the grave

*Chorus*

I went back home, the home was lonesome  
Since my mother, she was gone  
All my brothers and sisters crying  
What a home so sad and alone

*Chorus*

We sang those songs of childhood  
Hymns of faith that made us strong  
Ones that mother Thelma taught us  
Hear the angels sing along.

**Expressions of Gratitude from Family**

Cherie Beck, Thelma's Daughter  
Mack Miller, Thelma's Grandson  
Ann Kotch, Thelma's Granddaughter  
Eric Miller, Thelma's Grandson

**Special Music**

Amazing Grace

Betty Porter, Native American Flute

## Proclamation

### Prayers of Thanksgiving and 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 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.*

### \*Song     Each Day I Do

Matt Porter, Guitar

Each day I'll do  
A golden deed  
By helping those  
Who are in need  
My life on Earth  
Is but a span  
And so I'll do  
The best I can

Life's evening Sun  
Is sinking low  
A few more days  
And I must go  
To meet the deeds  
That I have done  
Where there will be  
No setting Sun

### \*Blessing

### \*Postlude

Betty Porter, Native American Flute

† † †

*You are invited to join us after the service  
for lunch downstairs in the fellowship hall.*

† † †

### **Participants in Today's Service**

Rev. Kristin Stroble, Pastor  
Betty Porter, Native American Flute and Recorder  
Matt Porter, Guitar  
Sue Miller  
Cherie Beck  
Mack Miller  
Ann Kotch  
Eric Miller

† † †

**Thelma Marie Hadden**  
February 3, 1931- February 15, 2025

Thelma was lovingly cared for and survived by her family including her three children: Sue (Dave) Miller, Cherie (Keith “Red”) Beck, and Scott Hadden; her three grandchildren: Ann (Ryan) Kotch, Eric (Kristine) Miller, and Matthew “Mack” Miller and his fiancée Kenisha Williams; her two great-grandchildren: Waylon “Wayway” and Hunter “Tutu” Kotch and grandchild-to-be Jayda Stovall. She is also survived by her brothers Harold G. Porter, Jr. (Betty Ann), Charles Porter, her sister Betty Jean Porter, sister-in-law Pam Hadden, brother-in-law Daryl Eldred, along with many nephews and nieces.

Thelma was born in Lansing, MI on February 3, 1931 to Harold and Olga Porter. She was predeceased by her parents and siblings Gwen Thomas Boyd, Sandra Eldred, and Ronald Porter.

Thelma retired as an administrator with Michigan State University’s Office of Medical Education Research and Development. She lived in the house her husband built on Manley Dr., for 67 years. When she was no longer able to maintain it, she lived with her daughter Sue and son-in-law Dave in Haslett.

Thelma was the second of seven children. She became a leader in the family at a young age and continued to be throughout her life. She was the person her parents, siblings and later family members, friends and colleagues, turned to for advice, a listening ear, or support. She had an innate ability to draw people toward her and welcome them with open arms.

As a mother, she supported her children/grandchildren until the end. She stood fiercely behind them all, encouraging, nudging, and providing constant love. One of her mantras was “no one is any better than you...and you aren’t any better than anyone else.” She would follow that with “remember that!”

Her family of origin taught her to accept and love all people, regardless of race, religion, or origin. She drilled into her family the importance of loving and respecting all people and helping those in need. As the years progressed, our mother became one feisty lady, who spoke out, advocated for others, and tried her best to fight for justice for all.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Elara Caring Hospice or the Salvation Army.

**Eastminster Presbyterian Church**  
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**[www.youtube.com/eastminsterpresbyterianchurcheastlansing](http://www.youtube.com/eastminsterpresbyterianchurcheastlansing)**