

First Congregation Church of Essex Junction

***A Service to Celebrate the Life of
Joyce Elizabeth Selby Jacobs***



October 7, 1932 - February 18, 2024

*I am the resurrection and the life.
Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live,
and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.
John 11:25-26*

Prelude

Opening Words of Promise and Welcome

Call to Worship..... Psalm 139

Leader: Where can we go to get away from God’s spirit?

Where can we flee from the divine presence?

People: If I ascend to heaven, you are there.

If I make my life hell, you are there.

Leader: If I take the wings of the morning

and settle in the farthest limits of the sea,

even there your hand shall lead and hold me fast.

People: If I allow darkness to cover me

and the light around me becomes as night,

even then your light transforms the darkness to light

and the night is as bright as day.

Leader: For you know me and love me,

and when I come to the end, I am still with you.

***Opening Hymn**

The Old Rugged Cross

[insert]

Greeting

A Time of Prayer and **Unison Lord’s Prayer (“trespasses”)**

**Loving God, 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 do not let us fall into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the
kingdom and the power and the glory forever, amen .**

Scripture Readings

Old Testament

Esther 4:6-5:3

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Psalm 23

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New Testament

Romans 12:9-21

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John 20:11-18

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Funeral Meditation

For Just Such a Time as This

Rev. Mark Mendes

A Time of Sharing

A Biblical Reading from Sean Selby

A Memory from 5th Grade Teacher Everett Dickenson

Memories and Sentiments from Joyce's Children Kevin and Kristin

Other Memories, Sentiments and Stories of Joyce

Affirmation of Faith [Romans 8]

We believe there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, and we know that in everything God works for good with those who love God, who are called according to God's purpose. We are sure that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor heights, nor depths, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Commendation

***Closing Hymn**

In the Garden

[insert]

Benediction

Pastoral Benediction

My Way

Frank Sinatra

***Sung Community Benediction**

Go Now In Peace

**Go now in peace. Never be afraid.
God will go with you each hour of every day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.
Know God will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe.
Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there, holding you in love.
Go now in peace, in faith and in love.**

Funeral Recession

**Please stand as you are able*

*❖Everyone is invited downstairs for a time of food and fellowship.
We encourage you to share your stories of Joyce and support her family. ❖*

Psalm 23

The Divine Shepherd

A Psalm of David

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

*He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;
he restores my soul.*

*He leads me in right paths
for his name's sake.*

*Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil,
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.*

*You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.*

*Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD
my whole life long.*