



Asbury First United Methodist Church

Pastors

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REV. SUSAN S. SHAFER

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A SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND REMEMBRANCE

FOR

Charles J. Churukian

May 11, 1928 - February 23, 2011

Saturday

March 5, 2011

Eleven O'clock

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THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

PRELUDE: Selected Music

CALL TO WORSHIP: Lamentations 3:22-26

L: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, His mercies never come to an end;

P: The Lord's mercies are new every morning; Great is Thy faithfulness.

L: "The Lord is my portion," says my soul, "therefore I will hope in Him."

P: The Lord is good to those who wait for Him, to the soul who seeks Him.

L: It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord.

P: We gather to give thanks to God for life; and most importantly this day, the life of Charles Churukian.

L: We come because our faith and our hope is in Jesus Christ who exults in our joys and compassionately bears our sorrows, who lived life abundantly and did not let the reversals of life overwhelm him, not even the part of life we call death.

ALL: As God's community gathered, we affirm our faith: In life, in death, in life beyond death, we are not alone; God is with us. Thanks be to God.

HYMN: "Now Thank We All Our God"

*Now thank we all our God, with heart and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices;
Who from our mothers' arms has blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.*

*O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;
And keep us still in grace, and guide us when perplexed;
And free us from all ills, in this world and the next.*

*All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given;
The Son, and him who reigns with them in highest heaven;
The one eternal God, whom earth and heaven adore;
For thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.*

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE: (Unison) Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi

**Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace
That where there is hatred I may bring love,
That where there is wrong I may bring the spirit of forgiveness,
That where there is discord I may bring harmony,
That where there is error I may bring truth,
That where there is doubt I may bring faith,
That where there is despair I may bring hope,
That where there are shadows I may bring Thy light,
That where there is sadness I may bring joy.
Lord, grant that I may seek rather
To comfort--than to be comforted;
To understand--than to be understood,
To love--than to be loved;
For it is by giving that one receives;
It is by self-forgetting that one finds;
It is by forgiving that one is forgiven;
It is by dying that one awakens to eternal life. Amen**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

THE OLD TESTAMENT WORD: Psalm 139:1-11, 23-24

THE WORD OF LIFE:

Through Professional Life Expression
Through Family Interaction
Through Devotion and Ministry

Diana Scott
Ronald Milone
Ralph Milone

THE WORD IN SONG: "If With All Your Heart"

Mendelssohn

THE NEW TESTAMENT WORD:

II Corinthians 4:5-18; 5:1-5

THE WORD OF FAITH

THE BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

CALL TO PRAYER:

"How Great Thou Art"

BLESSING TO ETERNAL LIFE: (Unison)

We thank You, O God, for all the goodness and courage which has passed from the life of this Your servant into the lives of others, this one who has left the world richer for his presence.

We give unto You, O God, the unrepeatable spirit of Charles and acknowledge his life's tasks faithfully lived, with his good humor and gracious affection, with faithful discipleship, kindly generosity, with sadness met without surrender and weakness endured without defeat. Receive his Spirit that we may have sacred ties with Your unseen world. Blessing and honor be Yours, O God as we pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HYMN:

"For All The Saints"

*For all the saints, who from their labors rest,
Who thee by faith before the world confessed,
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.
Alleluia, Alleluia!*

*O blest communion, fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
Yet all are one in thee, for all are thine.
Alleluia, Alleluia!*

*From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
Singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost:
Alleluia, Alleluia!*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE:

Selected Music

We Thank the Participants:

Celebration of Life:

Patty Gill, Niece
Ronald Milone, Nephew
Ralph Milone, Nephew
Diana Scott, Professional Friend
Matthew Valverde
Duane Prill
Rev. Phillip W. Phaneuf
Rev. Dr. W. Mark Ralls
Rev. Susan S. Shafer

Soloist:

Organist:

Officiants:

The Churukian Family deeply appreciates your presence, prayers and expressions of care. They will receive guests at a reception immediately following the service in 1010 East Ave. (the red brick building next to the church).

*O God, my heavenly Father, as I come
To you in prayer, I ask that you will
By your Holy Spirit give me spiritual
Discernment.*

*Help me to know
What is right and what is wrong;
What is good and what is evil;
What is pleasing to you and
What is not pleasing you.*

*Help me to do that which will bring
Glory, honor and praise to Your name.*

*May the words of my mouth and the
Meditations of my heart be acceptable
To you, O God, my strength and my
Redeemer.*

*-I pray this in the name of your
Blessed Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen*