

**Celebration of Life for Ann Appley**  
**Saturday \* February 3, 2018 \* 3:30 p.m.**  
**Decker Hall \* Pilgrim Place \* Claremont, CA**

...To live in this world  
you must be able  
to do three things:  
to love what is mortal;  
to hold it  
against your bones knowing  
your own life depends on it;  
and, when the time comes to let it go,  
to let it go.

- Mary Oliver, poet, New and Selected Poems, c.1992 (p.178)

**Gathering Music:**

**Pilgrim Pickers**

**PRELUDES in G**

--Down By Riverside 36 G  
--Love Song 13 G Jim  
--Family 16 G Jim

**We Begin:** a poem by Ellen Bass

**Joyce Kirk-Moore**

The thing is to love life  
to love it even when you have no stomach for it, when everything you've  
held dear crumbles like burnt paper in your hands  
and your throat is filled with the silt of it.

When grief sits with you so heavily  
it's like heat, tropical, moist  
thickening the air so it's heavy like water  
more fit for gills than lungs.

When grief weights you like your own flesh  
only more of it, an obesity of grief.

How long can a body withstand this? you think,  
and yet you hold life like a face between your palms,  
a plain face, with no charming smile or twinkle in her eye,  
and you say, yes, I will take you  
I will love you, again.

**Prayers for a Thousand Years, c.1999 (p.53)**

Elizabeth Roberts & Elias Amidon, ed.

Ellen Bass, poet

**Welcome:**

**Phil McKean**

*[Phil's words]*

**Prayer:**

**Mary Atwood**

We thank you O God, for the lives of those we love, but see no longer.  
Today we remember your servant, Ann.  
We remember her joy, her ready wit, and deep humor,  
We remember her fierceness in seeking justice,  
And her creativity in peace-making.  
We rejoice in the gift and heritage of her family,  
And her circle of friends.  
Though Ann could not always remember, we do.  
And with the psalmist we ask,  
Teach us to number our days, O God.  
Teach us to number our days, we pray  
That we may grow in wisdom and grace,  
Knowing that one day, we too, will be gathered with Ann  
To your nearer presence.  
We thank you that no matter what we may remember or forget,  
You, O God, remember each of us day by day.  
You remember each of us and hold us forever. AMEN.

**Song: "Thanksgiving Eve" by Bob Franke – Sung by**

**Anne Cohen**

**Scripture: "The 23rd Psalm (dedicated to my mother)" by Bobby McFerrin**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o9fzWq-d8jU>

**Gene and Friends**

The Lord is my Shepard [sic], I have all I need  
She makes me lie down in green meadows  
Beside the still waters, She will lead

She restores my soul, She rights my wrongs  
She leads me in a path of good things  
And fills my heart with songs

Even though I walk, through a dark and dreary land  
There is nothing that can shake me  
She has said She won't forsake me  
I'm in her hand

She sets a table before me, in the presence of my foes  
She anoints my head with oil  
And my cup overflows

Surely, surely goodness and kindness will follow me  
All the days of my life  
And I will live in her house  
Forever, forever and ever

Glory be to our Mother, and Daughter  
And to the Holy of Holies  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be  
World, without end  
Amen

### **Remembering Intro:**

**Phil McKean**

In times like these, it is important to remember.  
In remembering and sharing our experiences with others, we can piece together  
a more complete picture of the one we have loved, the one who has died.  
In the act of remembering, we also participate in a holy occupation.  
For what is the life of faith but remembering the sacred stories of our ancestors  
and letting them live again in our hearts?  
And what is the presence of G-d but the reassurance of our own significance in  
the Universe and the promise of immortality in the eternal and living memory of  
G-d?

*[Phil's Story]*

### **Remembering:**

**Anne Cohen**

*[Anne's reflection]*

**Song: "The Gifts That You Gave Me" by Jim Manley C –**

**Jim, Gene, Anne**

### **Remembering:**

**Pete Cohen**

*[Pete's reflection]*

### **Congregational Songs:**

**Pilgrim Pickers**

--This Land 116 D  
--Garden Song 22 D

## **Litany of Remembrance:** (from Jewish tradition)

**Phil McKean**

If you feel comfortable doing so, would you join together in a Litany of Remembrance. After each sentence you may respond with the words: "we remember her."

In the rising of the sun and in its going down,  
**we remember her.**  
In the blowing of the wind and in the chill of winter,  
**we remember her.**  
In the opening of buds and in the rebirths of spring,  
**we remember her.**  
In the blueness of the sky and in the warmth of summer,  
**we remember her.**  
In the rustling of leaves and in the beauty of autumn,  
**we remember her.**  
In the beginning of the year and when it ends,  
**we remember her.**  
As we raise her grandchildren and celebrate milestones,  
**we remember her.**  
When we are weary and in need of strength,  
**we remember her.**  
When we are lost and sick at heart,  
**we remember her.**  
When we have joys we yearn to share,  
**we remember her.**  
So long as we live, she too shall live,  
**for she is a part of us,**  
**as we remember her.**

## **Music:**

**Pilgrim Pickers**

--Times are a'Changing 21 D Jim  
--Hammer 35 C

## **Benediction:**

**Phil McKean**

Now may the courage of the early morning's dawning  
The strength of the eternal hills  
The wide open fields, the silent streams  
The beauty of flowered gardens  
The love of the family which can bring peace to the world  
The life that is Christ

The peace of the evening's ending  
And of the midnight  
Be with you now and forever more    Amen

by The Rev. Roy Burkhardt, UCC Columbus Ohio

**Sending Music:**

--We Shall Overcome 42 C

**Pilgrim Pickers**

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