

From Wendell Berry's "I Go Among Trees and Sit Still"

*Times will come as they must,
by necessity or his wish, when he leaves
his enclosure and his window,
his homescape of house and garden,
barn and pasture, the incarnate life
of his desire, thought, and daily work.
His grazing animals look up
to watch in silence as he departs.
He sets out at times without even
a path or any guidance other than knowledge
of the place and himself as they were
in time already past. He goes among trees,
climbing again the one hill of his life.
With his hand full of words he goes
Into the wordless, wording it barely
In time as he passes. One by one he places
words, balancing on each
as on a small stone in the swift flow
in his anxious patience until
the next arrives, until he has come
at last again into presentiment
of the Real, the wholly real in its grand
composure, for which as before
he knows no word. And here again
he must stop. Here by luck or grace he may
find rest, which he has been seeking
all along. Sometimes by the time's flaws
and his own, he fails. And then
by luck or grace he will be given
another day to try again, to go maybe
yet farther before again he must stop.
He is a gatherer of fragments, a cobbler
of pieces. Piece by piece he tells
a story without end, for in the time
of this world no end can come.
It is the story of eternity's shining,
much shadowed, much put off,
In time. And time, however long, falls short.*



*Celebration of the Life of
David Conrad Stahl*

November 25, 1956 – June 1, 2025

**A SERVICE OF WORSHIP IN WITNESS TO THE
RESURRECTION AND IN CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF
DAVID CONRAD STAHL
November 25, 1956 - June 1, 2025**

June 7, 2025

11:00 AM

PRELUDE.....Fauré
Pavane

OPENING SENTENCES

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord
Jesus Christ.

**People: God's great mercy has given us living hope
by the Resurrection of Jesus.**

Leader: Today we mourn, but we mourn with hope
in God's sure promises in the risen Christ.

**People: May the God who comforts us in all our
sorrows grant us peace.**

PRAYER

*HYMN No. 353.....SOLID ROCK
My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

OLD TESTAMENT READINGS

Psalms 96:1-6, 10-13

Psalms 46:1-5, 10-11

SELECTION from "*I Go Among Trees and Sit Still*"
by Wendell Berry

MUSICAL REFLECTION — *Ashokan Farewell*

NEW TESTAMENT READINGS

2 Corinthians 4:16-5:1

Matthew 25:31-40

MUSICAL REFLECTION — *Irish Lamentation*

WITNESS TO THE RESURRECTION

MUSICAL REFLECTION — *I'll Fly Away*

Soloist: Constance Harrington

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*from Romans 14*)

**We do not live to ourselves,
and we do not die to ourselves.
If we live, we live to the Lord,
and if we die, we die to the Lord;
So then, whether we live or whether we die,
we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died
and lived again, so that he might be Lord of
both the dead and the living.**

COMMENDATION

PRAYER WITH THE LORD'S PRAYER ("sins")

*HYMN No. 847.....O WYLY, WYLY
Our Hope, Our Life

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*RECESSIONAL.....Bach
Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring

*Following the service, the family will receive friends
in the Breezeway of the church.*

Pastor: John Peterson

Organist/Pianist: Chris Wszalek

Instrumentalist: Jim Harrington

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