

A MEMORIAL SERVICE  
IN CELEBRATION AND THANKSGIVING  
FOR THE LIFE OF

Eline N. Kniffin

APRIL 12, 1947—AUGUST 25, 2024



EPIPHANY PARISH OF SEATTLE  
1805 38TH AVENUE  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98122  
OCTOBER 26, 2024 AT 4:00 PM

*We invite you to help create the experience of silence before our service.  
Our hope is to calm our hearts as we prepare to enter into an intensity of shared presence.  
Thank you for turning off all electronic devices.*

## Organ Prelude

# THE ENTRANCE

*The people stand as the Presider says the following anthems in procession.*

*Presider* I am Resurrection and I am Life, says the Lord.

Whoever has faith in me shall have life,  
even though he dies.

And everyone who has life,  
and has committed himself to me in faith,  
shall not die for ever.

As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives  
and that at the last he will stand upon the earth.

After my awaking, he will raise me up;  
and in my body I shall see God.

I myself shall see, and my eyes behold him  
who is my friend and not a stranger.

For none of us has life in himself,  
and none becomes his own master when he dies.

For if we have life, we are alive in the Lord,  
and if we die, we die in the Lord.

So, then, whether we live or die,  
we are the Lord's possession.

Happy from now on  
are those who die in the Lord!

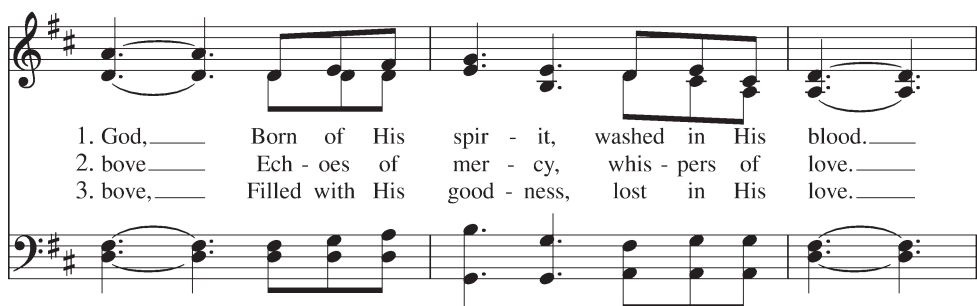
So it is, says the Spirit,  
for they rest from their labors.



1. Bless - ed as - sur - ance, Je - sus is mine! — O what a  
 2. Per - fect sub - mis - sion, per - fect de - light, — Vi - sions of  
 3. Per - fect sub - mis - sion, all is at rest, — I in my



1. fore - taste of glo - ry di - vine! — Heir of sal - va - tion, pur - chase of  
 2. rap - ture now burst on my sight; — An - gels de - scend - ing, bring from a -  
 3. sav - ior am hap - py and blest; — Watch - ing and wait - ing, look - ing a -



1. God, — Born of His spir - it, washed in His blood. —  
 2. bove — Ech - oes of mer - cy, whis - pers of love. —  
 3. bove, — Filled with His good - ness, lost in His love. —



This is my sto - ry, this is my song, — Prais - ing my



sav - ior all the day long; — This is my sto - ry, this is my



song, — Prais - ing my sav - ior all the day long. —

## Collect of the Day

*Presider* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Presider* Let us pray.

O God, whose mercies cannot be numbered: Accept our prayers on behalf of your servant Ellie, and grant her an entrance into the land of light and joy, in the fellowship of your saints; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*The people sit.*

## Eulogies

Clip Kniffin  
Liz Sayre  
Eric Kniffin  
Drew Kniffin

## Choir Anthem

### The Road Home

Stephen Paulus

Tell me, where is the road  
I can call my own  
That I left, that I lost  
So long ago?  
All these years I have wandered  
Oh, when will I know  
There's a way, there's a road  
That will lead me home.

After wind, after rain  
When the dark is done  
As I wake from a dream  
In the gold of day  
Through the air there's a calling  
From far away  
There's a voice I can hear  
That will lead me home.

Rise up, follow me  
Come away, is the call  
With the love in your heart  
As the only song  
There is no such beauty  
As where you belong  
Rise up, follow me  
I will lead you home.

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

**The First Lesson** *read by Thomas and Evelyn Kniffin*

**Isaiah 60:1-3, 11a, 14c, 18-19**

Arise, shine, for your light has come, \*  
and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you.

For behold, darkness covers the land; \*  
deep gloom enshrouds the peoples.

But over you the Lord will rise, \*  
and his glory will appear upon you.

Nations will stream to your light, \*  
and kings to the brightness of your dawning.

Your gates will always be open; \*  
by day or night they will never be shut.

They will call you, The City of the Lord, \*  
The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.

Violence will no more be heard in your land, \*  
ruin or destruction within your borders.

You will call your walls, Salvation, \*  
and all your portals, Praise.

The sun will no more be your light by day; \*  
by night you will not need the brightness of the moon.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**The Second Lesson** *read by Elliott Kniffin*

**2 Timothy 4:7-8**

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*The people stand.*

**The Gospel** read by *The Reverend Doyt L. Conn, Jr.*

**John 14:1-6**

*Gospeler* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

‘Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.’ Thomas said to him, ‘Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?’ Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.’

*Gospeler* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**Homily**

Tim Kniffin

**Hymn** (*verses 1-3 sung by the grandchildren, all join at verse 4*)

Philip P. Bliss

**It is well with my soul**

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,  
When sorrows like seabillows roll;  
Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,  
It is well, it is well with my soul.

*It is well with my soul,  
It is well, it is well with my soul.*

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,  
Let this blest assurance control,  
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate,  
And has shed His own blood for my soul.

*Refrain*

My sin oh, the bliss of this glorious thought  
My sin not in part, but the whole  
Is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more,  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

*Refrain*

**And, Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be sight,  
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll,  
The trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend,  
“Even so” it is well with my soul.**

*Refrain*

*1The people stand for*

**The Prayers** read by Diane Carlisle

*The reader offers the following prayers to which the people respond, "Amen."*

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Almighty God, who has knit together your elect in one communion and fellowship, in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord: Grant, we beseech thee, to your whole Church in paradise and on earth, your light and your peace. **Amen.**

Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to newness of life, and that through the grave and gate of death we may pass with him to our joyful resurrection. **Amen.**

Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith, that your Holy Spirit may lead us in holiness and righteousness all our days. **Amen.**

Grant to your faithful people pardon and peace, that we may be cleansed from all our sins, and serve you with a quiet mind. **Amen.**

Grant to all who mourn a sure confidence in your fatherly care, that, casting all their grief on you, they may know the consolation of your love. **Amen.**

Give courage and faith to those who are bereaved, that they may have strength to meet the days ahead in the comfort of a reasonable and holy hope, in the joyful expectation of eternal life with those they love. **Amen.**

Grant us grace to entrust Ellie to your never-failing love; receive her into the arms of your mercy, and remember her according to the favor which you bear to your people. **Amen.**

Grant us, with all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, to have our consummation and bliss in your eternal and everlasting glory, and, with all your saints, to receive the crown of life which you have promised to all who share in the victory of your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**The Peace**

**John 14:1-6**

*Presider* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*The people greet each one another in the name of Christ.*

**Welcome and Announcements**

# THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

## Offertory Sentence

*Presider* Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

## Choir Anthem

Be still, My Soul

Percy Whitlock

Be still, my soul, for God is near;  
The Great High Priest is with thee now;  
The Lord of Life Himself is here,  
Before whose face the angels bow.

To make thy heart His lowly throne  
Thy Saviour God in love draws nigh.  
He gives Himself unto His own,  
For whom He once came down to die.

I come, O Lord, for Thou dost call  
To blend my pleading prayer with Thine:  
To Thee I give myself, my all,  
And feed on Thee, and make Thee mine. Amen.

*The people stand for*

## Eucharistic Prayer

*Presider* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Presider* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Presider* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth; Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who rose victorious from the dead, and comforts us with the blessed hope of everlasting life. For to your faithful people, O Lord, life is changed, not ended; and when our mortal body lies in death, there is prepared for us a dwelling place eternal in the heavens. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:



**Sanctus** *sung by all*

Richard Proulx  
(from *Community Mass*)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*The people stand or kneel. Then the Presider continues*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Presider and people*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

*Presider*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him.

*Presider and people*

**Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.**

*Presider*

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.  
**AMEN.**

*Presider*

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

**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 trespasses,**

**as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation,**

**but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,**

**and the power, and the glory,**

**for ever and ever. Amen.**

## **Breaking of the Bread**

*The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.*

## **Fraction Anthem**

*Presider* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

*People* **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

## **The Invitation to Communion**

*Presider* The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*All are invited to receive the Holy Communion. The bread will be placed in your palm. You may consume the bread and then drink from the chalice (please grasp the bottom of the chalice firmly and guide it to your lips); or, you may leave the bread in your palm for the chalice bearer to dip it into the wine and place it on your tongue. The people's response to receiving the bread and the wine is "Amen". Gluten-free wafers are available. To indicate to the Eucharistic minister that you would like a gluten-free wafer, please present your hands palms down. Those who do not wish to receive Communion are invited to come forward for a blessing, indicated by crossing your arms over your chest.*

The Lord is my shepherd: therefore can I lack nothing.  
 He shall feed me in a green pasture: and lead me forth beside the waters of comfort.  
 He shall convert my soul: and bring me forth 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: thy rod and thy staff comfort me.  
 Thou shalt prepare a table before me against them that trouble me:  
 thou hast anointed my head with oil, and my cup shall be full.  
 But thy loving-kindness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:  
 and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

*The people stand.*

### Postcommunion Prayer

*Presider* Let us pray.

**Almighty God, we thank you that in your great love you have fed us with the spiritual food and drink of the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ, and have given to us a foretaste of your heavenly banquet. Grant that this Sacrament may be to us a comfort in affliction, and a pledge of our inheritance in that kingdom where there is no death, neither sorrow nor crying, but the fullness of joy with all your saints; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

## THE COMMENDATION

*Presider* Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with your saints,

*People* **where sorrow and pain are no more,  
 neither sighing, but life everlasting.**

*Presider* You only are immortal, the creator and maker of humankind; and we are mortal, formed of the earth, and to earth shall we return. For so you did ordain when you created me, saying, "You are dust, and to dust you shall return." All of us go down to the dust; yet even at the grave we make our song: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

*People* **Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with your saints,  
 where sorrow and pain are no more,  
 neither sighing, but life everlasting.**

*Presider* Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Ellie. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Receive her into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light. **Amen.**

Lord God, we pray to you for those we love, but see no longer: Grant them your peace; let light perpetual shine upon them; and, in your loving wisdom and almighty power, work in them the good purpose of your perfect will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The people remain standing to sing*

## Hymn

Joyful, joyful we adore thee

*Ode to Joy*

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;  
2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heaven re - flect thy rays,  
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,

hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.  
stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.  
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness; drive the dark of doubt a - way;  
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, bloom - ing mea - dow, flash - ing sea,  
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our Bro - ther: all who live in love are thine;

giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.  
chant - ing bird and flow - ing foun - tain, call us to re - joice in thee.  
teach - us how to love each o - ther, lift us to the joy di - vine.

*The people remain standing as the family exits the church.*

## Voluntary

*The family invites you to exit by the skybridge at the back of the church into the Great Hall for a reception, or to follow the presider into the Garden of Remembrance for the Committal,*

## THE COMMITTAL

When all have gathered at the graveside, the following anthem is said

*Presider*

Everyone the Father gives to me will come to me; I will never turn away anyone who believes in me.

He who raised Jesus Christ from the dead will also give new life to our mortal bodies through his indwelling Spirit.

My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; my body also shall rest in hope. You will show me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to Almighty God our sister Ellie, and we commit her body to its resting place; earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust. The Lord bless her and keep her, the Lord make his face to shine upon her and be gracious to her, the Lord lift up his countenance upon her and give her peace. Amen.

**Psalm 23** (*King James Version*) *read in unison*

**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 for ever.**

*Presider*

Almighty God, with whom still live the spirits of those who die in the Lord, and with whom the souls of the faithful are in joy and felicity: We give you heartfelt thanks for

*The remains are placed in the columbarium.*

*Presider* Grant eternal rest to Ellie, O Lord;

*People* **And let light perpetual shine upon her.**

*Presider* May her soul and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

*People* **Amen.**

### **The Blessing**

*Presider* Alleluia. Christ is risen.

*People* **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

*Presider* May God, who has given us, in the lives of the saints, patterns of holy living and victorious dying, strengthen your faith and devotion, and enable you to be witness to the truth against all adversity.

And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you forever.

*People* **Amen.**

### **Dismissal**

*Presider* Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia. Alleluia.

*People* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

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Eline ("Ellie") Nieuwenhuis Kniffin, 77, passed away at home in Seattle on August 25, 2024, surrounded by loving family after years of suffering from lung ailments caused by cancer treatments decades ago.

Ellie was born in Lisse, the Netherlands, on April 12, 1947, the youngest of three children born to George and Hilly Nieuwenhuis. Her family immigrated to the U.S. in November 1947 when her father sought to expand the family tulip bulb business.

Ellie grew up in Mt. Airy, North Carolina in a loving Christian home. She went to Mt. Airy High School, attended Wake Forest University and graduated in 1969 from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. After graduation, Ellie worked for IBM for six years as a Systems Engineer before starting a family.

Ellie married Ogden (Clip) Kniffin on October 28, 1972, and together they raised three sons in Wheaton, Illinois, where they lived for 37 years. Ellie knew that, by pouring herself into her children, family and community, she was building something greater than herself and leaving a legacy of love and sacrifice that would last into eternity. Ellie and Clip were active members of Community Fellowship Church in Wheaton where Ellie served as a deacon. She taught ESL (English as a Second Language) classes and gave knitting instruction for many years. She started a wallpaper business when the boys were young and used her creative, entrepreneurial and frugal talents in all that she did.

During the years in Wheaton, Ellie hosted countless groups in their home and organized many road trips to visit family and national parks. These trips, along with ski trips to Colorado, tightened the family's bonds.

Ellie's Christian faith was a central aspect of her life from childhood. She attended a Christian weekend called Cursillo in the late 1970s that strengthened her faith for God and his purposes. She was actively involved in Bible Study Fellowship for more than 40 years. Her greatest joy was always to be with her children and being "Oma" to her grandchildren wherever they lived.

Ellie and her husband moved to Seattle in 2016 to be closer to two of their sons and their grandchildren. There Ellie was an active member of Epiphany Parish.

Ellie is survived by her husband, Clip, and her three sons and their families: Eric and Bonnie Kniffin in Colorado Springs, CO; Tim and Cynthia Kniffin in Seattle; and Andrew and Colleen Kniffin, also in Seattle. Ellie had 14 grandchildren of whom 13 survived her. Eric and Bonnie's children are Catherine, Mary, Thomas, Elizabeth, Michael (d. 2021), John, Anne and Clare. Tim and Cynthia's children are Abigail and Evelyn, and Andrew and Colleen's children are Ellie, Elliott, Grace and Lucy. Ellie is also survived by her sister Elisabeth in Winchester, MA and by her brother George in Kernersville, NC.

In lieu of flowers, Ellie's family asks that contributions be made to World Relief (Western Washington or Chicagoland, IL) and to Bible Study Fellowship. World Relief is a worldwide relief agency that assists in the resettlement of refugees. Bible Study Fellowship guides its thousands of men and women worldwide in the study of Scripture.

*Wherever you are on your spiritual journey:  
You have a place at Epiphany.*

***Serving this day:***

*Rector* The Reverend Doyt L. Conn, Jr.

*Director of Worship* Diane Carlisle

*Director of Music* Zachary Hemenway

*The Epiphany Choir*

*The Kniffin Grandchildren*

*Eulogists* Clip Kniffin, Elizabeth Sayre, Drew Kniffin, Eric Kniffin

*Homilist* Tim Kniffin

*Lectors* Thomas Kniffin, Evelyn Kniffin, Elliott Kniffin

*Ushers* George Nieuwenhuis, Drew Kniffin, Tim Kniffin, Eric Kniffin

*Eucharistic Ministers* Ann Beck, Kari Glover, Kelli Martin

*Altar Guild* Sally Clarke

*Altar Flowers* Sandra Darling