

**A Service of Celebration and Thanksgiving
for the Life of
Donna Willett
July 19, 1943 - September 30, 2022**



**Saturday, October 22, 2022 – 11:00am
Yorkminster Park Baptist Church
1585 Yonge Street
Toronto, ON M4T 1Z9**

Officiating Minister
The Rev. Paula Willis

Organist
William Maddox
BMus, FTCL, FCAM

Order of Service

Preludes

*Opening Sentences

***Hymn** - What a Friend we have in Jesus

*What a Friend we have in Jesus,
All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
Everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit,
O what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry
Everything to God in prayer!*

*Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged,
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful
Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness,
Take it to the Lord in prayer.*

*Are we weak and heavy-laden,
Cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge—
Take it to the Lord in prayer;
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?
Take it to the Lord in prayer;
In His arms He'll take and shield thee,
Thou wilt find a solace there.*

Invocation

The Rev. Paula Willis

The Lord's Prayer

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

Tribute –

Holy Scripture – Psalm 23

John 1:1-5

John 3:16

Barb Norden

Amy Charette

Hymn – Jesus Loves Me

*Jesus loves me, this I know,
for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to him belong;
they are weak, but he is strong.*

Refrain:

*Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.*

*Jesus loves me he who died
heaven's gate to open wide.
He will wash away my sin,
let his little child come in. [Refrain]*

*Jesus loves me, this I know,
as he loved so long ago,
taking children on his knee,
saying, "Let them come to me." [Refrain]*

Homily

The Rev. Paula Willis

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Hymn – How Great Thou Art

*O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works Thy hands have made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy pow'r thru-out the universe displayed!*

Chorus:

*Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee;
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee;
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!*

*When thru the woods and forest glades I wander
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees,
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze, (Chorus)*

*And when I think that God, His Son not sparing,
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in –
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin! (Chorus)*

*When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim, my God, how great Thou art! (Chorus)*

***Benediction**

Postlude

The Memorial Bells will peal for five minutes.

The family look forward to receiving your greetings at a reception to follow the service in Cameron Hall.

Donna Merele Willett (Toronto, Ontario), passed away on September 30, 2022, at the age of 79, leaving to mourn family and friends.

She was predeceased by her parents, Raymond Willett and Angelina Willett; her sister Elizabeth Ann; and her nephew Thomas Norden (Mary). She is survived by siblings, Rev. Hugh Willett (Alice) of Ottawa, ON, Rev. Jackson Willett (Elaina) of Kingston, NB, Barbara Norden (Carl) of Toronto, ON, Nancy Hatt (Reuben) of Mount Uniacke, NS and Bryan Willett (Shirley) of Bridgetown, NS.; and her nieces and nephews, Crystal Carlos (Michael), Jeffery Norden, Joel Willett (Angela), Jayd Merrick, Pamela Lewis, Carol Canty (Michael), Dena Willett and Sarah Wentzell (Travis).

A native of Nova Scotia, Toronto was home for 59 years. Donna enjoyed a long career at Simpson's and the Hudson's Bay Company. She was a beloved member of both the Parkdale Baptist Church and Yorkminster Park Baptist Church, where she taught Sunday school and was involved in many other church activities. Donna was a caring soul who supported her community through her involvement in several local charities which allowed her to help her neighbours. She was a loving woman who will be missed by her church, community, and family. As God has watched over her and protected her throughout her life, may He now gather her into His arms to know the peace and joy of His presence.

In lieu of flowers, Donna has asked that donations be made in her name to The House of Compassion or to Dorcas through Yorkminster Park Baptist Church.

An Interment service will be held on Saturday, November 5th 2022 at 11:30 AM at the Nictaux Baptist Cemetery in Nova Scotia.