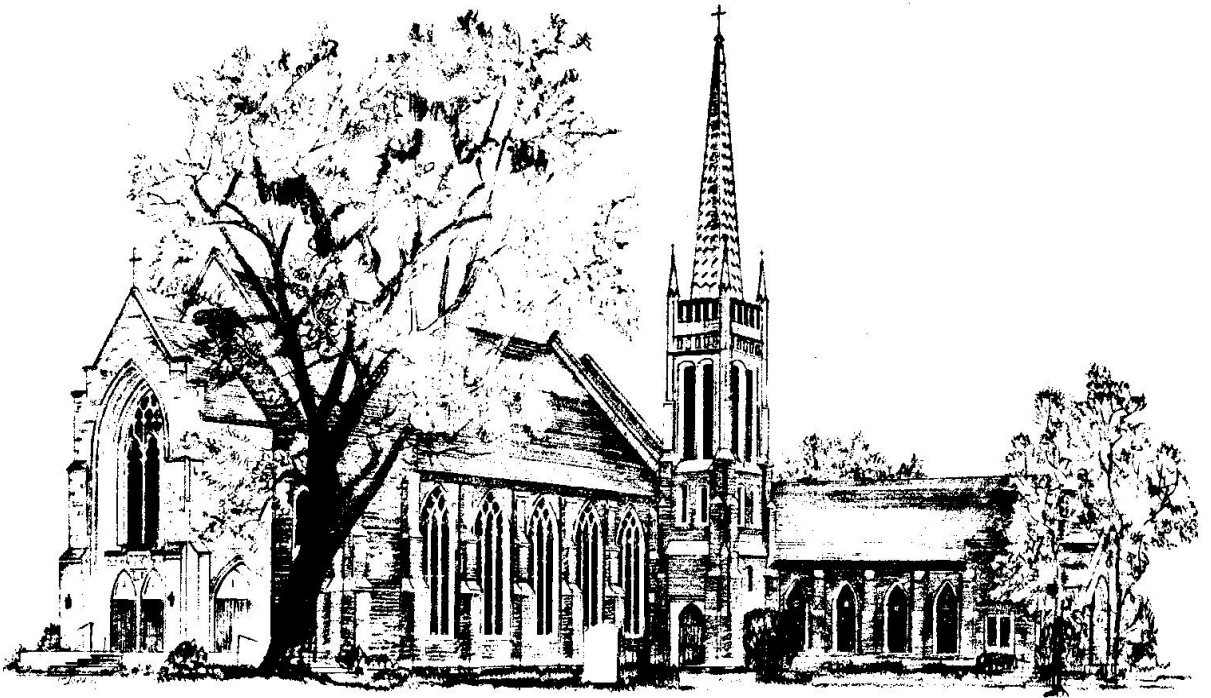


DECATUR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Elizabeth Jane Harris Boswell

August 30, 1932 ~ May 1, 2023

A SERVICE OF WITNESS TO THE RESURRECTION
OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST
2:00 p.m., Saturday, May 13, 2023

Sanctuary

and

A SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE LIFE AND WITNESS

of

Elizabeth Jane Harris Boswell

August 30, 1932 ~ May 1, 2023

PRELUDE

Holy, Holy, Holy

Matthew McMahan, *organist*

MEDITATIONS FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

“I am the resurrection and the life. She who believes in me, even though she dies, yet shall she live...”

John 11:25

“The LORD is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life—of whom shall I be afraid?...I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage—wait for the LORD!”

Psalms 27:1, 13-14

“I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.”

Philippians 4:13

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Rev. Dr. Todd Speed

*CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 23)

Pastor: The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

People: He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul.

Pastor: Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil.

People: For you are with me; your rod and your staff – they comfort me.

Pastor: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

People: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

*HYMN 839

Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!

Assurance

**PRAYER OF ADORATION AND PRAISE*

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. *Amen.*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

OLD TESTAMENT READING
Psalm 121

John Boswell

NEW TESTAMENT READINGS
Philippians 4:4-9
John 14:1-4
Matthew 28:16-20

Lilly Belcher

EXPRESSIONS OF THANKSGIVING

Dr. Speed

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Sung)

Albert Hay Malotte

Louisa Boswell, *soloist*

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. *Amen.*

**HYMN 69*

I, the Lord of Sea and Sky

Here I Am (Schutte)

**PASTORAL CHARGE and BENECTION*

Dr. Speed

**ORGAN VOLUNTARY*

Matthew McMahan, *organist*
Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

† † †

*The family will receive friends at a reception in the Keith Parlor
following the service*

† † †

The family wishes to extend special thanks to Jane's kind and loving caregivers,
Angie Reid, Armenia Wilson, Demetria Reid,
Vanessa Martin, and Antoinette Fanen,
and to Jane's caring friends at Clairmont Place
and Montclair Personal Care.

† † †

*I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.
Philippians 4:13*



Jane Boswell died on May 1, 2023 after a courageous battle with cancer, at the age of 90. Born in 1932 to John Blanchard Harris and Emma Ruth Martyn Harris, and raised in San Antonio, Jane was a Texan through and through. She attended Jefferson High School and graduated from Trinity University with a B.S. in Biology. After college she worked as a Certified Medical Technologist. She met Leonard Griffin Boswell at Beacon Hill Presbyterian Church in San Antonio, where he was serving as Director of Christian Education, and they were married there in 1954. The family later moved to Georgia for Leonard to take a position with the Atlanta Presbytery. Jane taught pre-school at Decatur

Presbyterian Church for many years. After retiring from teaching, she worked for a number of years at Evening at Emory.

For over sixty years she and Leonard were faithful members of Decatur Presbyterian Church, where Jane served as a deacon and an elder. Jane and Leonard were married for 66 years. They filled their retirement with volunteering and travel. They took many trips to Europe and the Holy Land, with grandchildren as occasional traveling companions. Well into her eighties, she and Leonard traveled with Honduras Outreach Inc., helping with improvements in villages of rural Honduras. For as long as they were physically able, they delivered Meals on Wheels every Wednesday often taking their grandchildren with them. Jane and Leonard impressed upon their children and grandchildren the importance of caring for others less fortunate.

Jane leaves behind her daughter Elizabeth “Libby” Belcher, son John (Liza), grandchildren Madison (Katie), Will, Louisa, and Lilly, great grandchildren Elizabeth and William, sister-in-law Mary Evalyn Wilson, brother-in-law Bill Dobson, nieces, nephews and cousins. She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Leonard, son-in-law Carlton Belcher, and sister-in-law Fran Dobson. A celebration of life will be held at Decatur Presbyterian Church. Burial will be in San Antonio, Texas at a later date. In lieu of flowers the family asks that you consider making a donation to Decatur Presbyterian Church (dpchurch.org) or Honduras Outreach (hoi.org).

AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We accept death as a part of the good life we are given. We are reluctant to surrender life, but we know in the end that earthly death comes to each of us. But death is no match for God. The resurrection of Jesus was God's victory over death. Death often seems to prove that life is not worth living, that our best efforts and deepest affections go for nothing. But we do not yet see the end of death. Christ has been raised from the dead, transformed, and yet the same person, and in his resurrection is the promise of ours.

We are convinced the life God wills for each of us is stronger than the death that destroys us. The glory of life everlasting exceeds our imagination but we know we shall be with Christ. So we treat death as a broken power. Its ultimate defeat is certain. In the face of death, we grieve, yet no life ends so tragically that its meaning and value are destroyed. Nothing, not even death, can separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ our Lord. Thus, in hope, we celebrate life.

From A Declaration of Faith, PC(USA)

† † †

*God has told you, O mortal, what is good
and what does the Lord require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God.*

Micah 6:8

† † †



DECATUR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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