

*Precious in the sight of the Lord  
is the death of His saints.*

*Psalm 116:15*



*Joelyn Helen  
Antipas*

18 January 1954 - 3 March 2025

# **FUNERAL LITURGY**

Friday, 7 March 2025

## **Reflections**

*Please silence your mobiles.*

*God's love and power extend over all creation. Every life, including our own, is precious to God. Christians have always believed that there is hope in death as in life, and that there is new life in Christ after death.*

*God's word says, that nothing can ever separate us from God's love in Christ Jesus our Lord—neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation. For Christ has declared that He is the resurrection of life. Blessed are all who mourn for they shall be comforted.*

## **Call to Worship: Rev Theodore Vijay**

*From Job 1:20-21; 1 Thessalonians 4:14*

**Leader:** Then Job arose and tore his robe and shaved his head and fell on the ground and worshiped. Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return.

**People:** The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD.

**Leader:** For we brought nothing into the world, and we take nothing out

**People:** The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord.

## **Prayer of Invocation: Rev Theodore Vijay**

## Hymn of Assurance

### This World is Not My Home

This world is not my home  
I'm just a-passing through  
My treasures are laid up  
Somewhere beyond the blue  
The angels beckon me  
From heaven's open door  
And I can't feel at home  
In this world anymore

*Oh Lord, you know  
I have no friend like you  
If heaven's not my home  
Then Lord what will I do  
The angels beckon me  
From heaven's open door  
And I can't feel at home  
In this world anymore*

I have a loving mother  
Just up in Gloryland  
And I don't expect to stop  
Until I shake her hand  
She's waiting now for me  
In heaven's open door  
And I can't feel at home  
In this world anymore

Just over in Gloryland  
We'll live eternally  
The saints on every hand  
Are shouting victory  
Their songs of sweetest praise  
Drift back from heaven's shore  
And I can't feel at home  
In this world anymore

## Affirmation of Faith

*From the Heidelberg Catechism, Q1*

**Leader:** Christian, what is your only comfort in life and in death?

**People:** That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

## Scripture Reading and Homily: Rev Philip Yalla

## Prayer for the Family: Mrs Anusiah Jasper

## Hymn of Departure

### It Is Well With My Soul

When peace like a river attendeth my way  
When sorrows like sea billows roll  
Whatever my lot  
Thou hast taught me to say  
It is well, it is well with my soul

*It is well (It is well)  
With my soul (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 hath regarded  
My helpless estate  
And hath shed His own blood for my soul

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

### Benediction: Rev Philip Yalla

*From Romans 15:13*

**Leader:** May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope. Amen.

**People:** Thanks be to God. Amen.

# COMMITTAL SERVICE

## Invitation

Dear Church. To everything there is a season here on earth; a time to be born and a time to die. God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore, we will not fear though the earth gives way and the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

We grieve in sadness at Sis. Helen's death but with appreciation of her life, we remember and acknowledge the significance and value she has brought to all of our lives.

But now it's time to say a final goodbye, committing her body to be buried and thus committing her memory to our hearts for the rest of our days.

In love we leave Sis. Helen in peace. And with respect we bid her farewell.

## Scripture Reading

**Matthew 25:34** Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.

**Isaiah 65:17f** “For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth, and the former things shall not be remembered or come into mind. But be glad and rejoice forever in that which I create; for behold, I create Jerusalem to be a joy, and her people to be a gladness. I will rejoice in Jerusalem and be glad in my people; no more shall be heard in it the sound of weeping and the cry of distress. No more shall there be in it an infant who lives but a few days, or an old man who does not fill out his days.”

**Revelation 7:15f** “Therefore, they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in His temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with His presence. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

## Prayer Over the Committal

Lord Jesus Christ, by your own three days in the tomb, you hallowed the graves of all who believe in you and so made the grave a sign of hope that promises resurrection even as it claims our mortal bodies.

Grant that our dear sis. Helen may sleep here in peace until you awaken her to glory, for you are the resurrection and the life. That she shall see you face to face and in your light, she will see light and know the splendor of God, for you live and reign for ever and ever.

Amen.

## **Committal**

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ,

We commend to Almighty God Sis. Helen, and we commit her body to the ground,  
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.

## **Prayer of comfort for the grieving family: Dr. Sam Abraham**

### **Concluding Prayer**

Merciful Lord, you know the anguish of the sorrowful, you are attentive to the prayers of the humble. Hear your people who cry out to you in their need and strengthen their hope in your lasting goodness.

Gracious God, accept the prayers we offer in sadness for dear sis. Helen and clothe her with the robe of salvation to enjoy forever the delights of your kingdom.

Loving God, from whom all life proceeds and by whose hand the dead are raised again. Though we are sinners, you hear our prayers. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **Benediction**

*From Hebrews 13:20-21*

Now may the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

