

# In Memoriam

**Franklin Seth Dyrness, Jr.**

Faithful Servant of Jesus Christ

February 23, 1941 — October 17, 2006

My eyes are ever on the LORD,  
for only he will release my feet from the snare.

May integrity and uprightness protect me,  
because my hope is in you.

Redeem Israel, O God,  
from all their troubles!

(Psalm 25:15, 21-22)



**The Covenant Presbyterian Church**

Saturday, October 21, 2006 — 10:30 a.m.

## Order of Worship

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,

His mercies never come to an end:

They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

"The Lord is my portion," says my soul, "therefore I will hope in Him."

Lamentations 3:22, 23

**Prelude** "In Joy and Peace I Now Depart" J.S. Bach

**Choral Offering** "Thanks Be to Thee" G.F. Handel  
Soloist, Charles Waldron

### Congregational Introit

"O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing" Charles Wesley, 1739

O for a thousand tongues to sing; my great Redeemer's praise,  
The glories of my God and King, the triumphs of His grace.

He breaks the power of canceled sin, He sets the prisoner free;  
His blood can make the foulest clean, His blood availed for me.

He speaks, and, listening to His voice, new life the dead receive,  
The mournful, broken hearts rejoice; the humble poor believe.

**Call to Worship** Psalm 90:1-5; Isaiah 40:6b-8

### Hymn of Assurance

"How Firm a Foundation" (# 94) Anonymous, 1787

### Prayer of Adoration

#### Confession of Faith

Psalm 111

**Leader:** Praise the LORD.

**People:** I will extol the LORD with all my heart;  
in the council of the upright and in the assembly.

**L:** Great are the works of the LORD;  
they are pondered by all who delight in them.

**P:** **Glorious and majestic are his deeds,  
and his righteousness endures forever.**

**L:** He has caused his wonders to be remembered;  
the LORD is gracious and compassionate.

**P:** **He provides food for those who fear him;  
he remembers his covenant forever.**

**L:** He has shown his people the power of his works,  
giving them the lands of other nations.

**P:** **The works of his hands are faithful and just;  
all his precepts are trustworthy.**

**L:** They are steadfast for ever and ever,  
done in faithfulness and uprightness.

**P:** **He provided redemption for his people;  
he ordained his covenant forever—holy and awesome is his name.**

**L:** The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;  
all who follow his precepts have good understanding.

**Unison: To him belongs eternal praise.**

### **Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Amen.

**God's Standard of Life & Blessing** Psalm 32:1-7

### **Silent Prayer of Confession**

Congregation

### **Hymn of Confession**

"I Lay My Sins on Jesus"  
Soloist, Charles Waldron

Horatius Bonar, 1843

I lay my sins on Jesus, the spotless Lamb of God;  
He bears them all, and frees us from the accursed load;  
I bring my guilt to Jesus, to wash my crimson stains  
White in his blood most precious, till not a stain remains.

I lay my wants on Jesus; all fullness dwells in him;  
He heals all my diseases, he doth my soul redeem:  
I lay my griefs on Jesus, my burdens and my cares;  
he from them all releases, he all my sorrows shares.

I long to be like Jesus, meek, loving, lowly, mild;  
I long to be like Jesus, the Father's holy Child:  
I long to be with Jesus, amid the heavenly throng,  
To sing with saints his praises, to learn the angels' song.

**Reading of the Gospel of Forgiveness**

Romans 8:1-4, 14-25

**Solo** "My Tribute"  
Soloist, Rev. Alan Mills

Andraé Crouch (1971)

To God be the glory; to God be the glory; to God be the glory  
For the things He has done.  
With His blood He has saved me; with His pow'r He has raised me,  
To God be the glory; for the things He has done.

How can I say thanks for the things you have done for me,  
Things so undeserved, yet You give to prove Your love for me.  
The voices of a million angels could not express my gratitude;  
All that I am and ever hope to be I owe it all to Thee.

Just let me live my life, let it be pleasing Lord to Thee.  
And should I gain any praise, let it go to Calvary.  
With His blood He has saved me, With His pow'r He has raised me,  
To God be the glory, for the things He has done.

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**Personal Glimpses**

LTJG Eric Weston

**Personal Testimony**

Franklin Seth Dyrness, Jr.  
Read by Dr. Donovan Graham

**Hymn of Affirmation**

"Jesus Thy Blood and Righteousness" (#520)

Nikolaus von Zinzendorf, 1739

**The Promise of Resurrection**

From I Corinthians 15

**Choral Affirmation of Faith**

"Death I Do Not Fear Thee"

J.S. Bach

Recording by the Wheaton College Men's Glee Club (1963)  
Clayton Halvorsen, Director

**The Promise of Eternal Life**

John 10:9, 10, 27-30; Isaiah 25:6-9; Revelation 21:1-6

## Hymn of Affirmation

“He the Pearly Gates Will Open”  
(Norwegian Hymn)

Alfred Dulin  
Frederick A. Blom  
Nathaniel Carlson

Love divine so great and wondrous, deep and mighty pure sublime,  
Coming from the heart of Jesus—just the same through tests of time.

### Refrain

*He the pearly gates will open, so that I may enter in;  
For He purchased my redemption, and forgave me all my sin.*

Like a dove when hunted, frightened, as a wounded fawn was I,  
Broken-hearted yet He healed me—He will heed the sinner's cry.

Love divine, so great and wondrous—all my sins He then forgave;  
I will sing His praise forever, for His blood His power to save.

In life's eventide at twilight, at His door I'll knock and wait;  
By the precious love of Jesus, I shall enter Heaven's gate.

## Proclamation of the Word of God

Rev. Ronald Lutjens

“Jesus Christ For Our Very Fragile Selves”  
Revelation 1:4-18 (see page 7)

## Hymn of Commitment

“Be Thou My Vision” (#642)

Irish Hymn, 8th cent.

## Closing Prayer (Benediction given at graveside)

### Choral Response

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

Recording by the Wheaton College Men's Glee Club (1963)  
Clayton Halvorsen, Director

### Recessional

“Praise My Soul the King of Heaven”

Sir John Goss

### Postlude

“Now Thank We All Our God”

JS Bach  
Kart-Elert (arr.)

Everyone is invited to a brief graveside committal service at St. Paul's Churchyard (7600 S. Rock Hill Road, Affton, MO 63123) and to lunch afterwards back here at Covenant Church.

Seth's sisters and their families wish to express their deep appreciation to all who have come today to honor the memory and life of their brother.



## Revelation 1:4-18

<sup>4</sup>John,

To the seven churches in the province of Asia:

Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits before his throne, <sup>5</sup>and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, <sup>6</sup>and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father—to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen.

<sup>7</sup>Look, he is coming with the clouds,

and every eye will see him,

even those who pierced him;

and all the peoples of the earth will mourn because of him. So shall it be! Amen.

<sup>8</sup>"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty."

<sup>9</sup>I, John, your brother and companion in the suffering and kingdom and patient endurance that are ours in Jesus, was on the island of Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. <sup>10</sup>On the Lord's Day I was in the Spirit, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet, <sup>11</sup>which said: "Write on a scroll what you see and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia and Laodicea."

<sup>12</sup>I turned around to see the voice that was speaking to me. And when I turned I saw seven golden lampstands, <sup>13</sup>and among the lampstands was someone "like a son of man," dressed in a robe reaching down to his feet and with a golden sash around his chest. <sup>14</sup>His head and hair were white like wool, as white as snow, and his eyes were like blazing fire. <sup>15</sup>His feet were like bronze glowing in a furnace, and his voice was like the sound of rushing waters. <sup>16</sup>In his right hand he held seven stars, and out of his mouth came a sharp double-edged sword. His face was like the sun shining in all its brilliance.

<sup>17</sup>When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. Then he placed his right hand on me and said: "Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. <sup>18</sup>I am the Living One; I was dead, and behold I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades.

## Officiating

*Rev. Ronald G. Lutjens, Senior Pastor*  
Old Orchard Church-Presbyterian  
Webster Groves, Missouri

*Rev. Stephen Tracey*  
Lakeview Orthodox Presbyterian Church  
Rockport, Maine

*Rev. John Roberts, Assistant Pastor*  
The Covenant Presbyterian Church  
St. Louis, Missouri

## Organist

Jane Bogar

## Musicians

**Violins:** Beverly Platt, Jessica Platt, Marilyn Humiston, Liz Zenk

**Violas:** Ed Simon, Debbie Wagman

**Cello:** Kathy Sanders

**Bassoon:** Robert Carter

**Trumpets:** Greg Grooms, Dan Smith

## Pallbearers

Gopi Sandhu  
Dale Allen  
Alan Mills  
Philip Archer  
Donovan Graham  
LTJG Eric Weston

James Fink  
Jeffrey Nagle  
Hal Schaeffer  
William Brightman  
David Weston  
LCpl Peter Weston

## "Grandchildren"

Luke Allen  
Zachary Allen  
Emma Grace Allen  
Bailey Nagle  
Calvin Nagle  
Wesley Nagle  
Zachariah Mills  
Nathaniel Dyrness S. Mills

## Honorary Pallbearers

Kevin Breniman  
William Brightman, Jr.  
George Gentsch  
Patrick Graham  
Andrew Jones  
James E. Lockhart  
Dean Pedersen  
Paul Woodard

Bryan Brightman  
Bruce Edwards  
D. Seth Graham  
Bryant Hansen  
Brian Jones  
John Lovelady  
Ervin Pfeiffer  
Joseph Pfeiffer  
Logan Pfeiffer

O Lord, preserve my soul.  
Establish my body. Upraise my senses.  
Direct my conversation. Compose my manners.  
Bless my actions. Perfect my prayers.  
Inspire holy meditations.  
The sins done aforetime forgive,  
the present correct, the future prevent.  
Amen.

—Lancelot Andrewes (1555 - 1626)

## Franklin Seth Dyrness, Jr.

The Reverend Franklin Seth Dyrness, Jr., 65, went home to be with his Lord on Tuesday, October 17, 2006 at his home in Webster Groves, Missouri.

At the time of his death, Rev. Dyrness was Staff Chaplain at Missouri Baptist Hospital and a member of their Grief Support Group. From 2002 through 2004 he served as Interim Director of Pastoral Care. He was also Visiting Instructor in Practical Theology at Covenant Theological Seminary in St. Louis, Missouri.

Born on February 23, 1941 in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, he was the son of the late Rev. Dr. Franklin Seth Dyrness and Dorothy Ruth Rasmussen Dyrness of Quarryville, Pennsylvania. A 1959 graduate of Solanco High School, Rev. Dyrness received his B.A. in History from Wheaton College, Wheaton, Illinois in 1963. He earned his M. Div. at Westminster Theological Seminary in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1966. Subsequently, he studied at L'Abri Fellowship in Switzerland as well as at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, Chicago, and earned his Th.M. in Biblical and Pastoral Theology at Covenant Seminary in St. Louis, Missouri in 1992. He was a Board Certified Chaplain of the Association of Professional Chaplains.

Ordained in 1968, Rev. Dyrness served as Associate Pastor/Minister to Students at University Presbyterian Church (Reformed Presbyterian Church, General Synod), Las Cruces, New Mexico. He served as organizing pastor of the Church of the Good Shepherd (Reformed Presbyterian Church, Evangelical Synod) in Valparaiso, Indiana. He also served as Assistant Administrator and Chaplain at the Quarryville Presbyterian Retirement Community.

A teaching elder of the Presbyterian Church in America and a member of the Great Lakes Presbytery, Rev. Dyrness attended Old Orchard Church—Presbyterian, Webster Groves, Missouri. He was the Secretary of the Board of Directors of The Quarryville Presbyterian Retirement Community. He also served as Vice-President of the Board of FirstLight Ministries, St. Louis, Missouri.

He is survived by his sisters, Nancy Ruth Dyrness of Quarryville, Pennsylvania; Margaret Dyrness Weston, wife of Dr. David M. Weston, of Lancaster, Pennsylvania; and Lois Dyrness Mitchell, wife of G. Keith Mitchell, Jr. of Quarryville, eleven nieces and nephews, and nine great-nieces and nephews. A fourth sister, Elizabeth Dyrness Andres, wife of Lawrence G. Andres, preceded him in death.

In lieu of flowers memorial contributions can be sent to the "F. Seth Dyrness, Jr. Pastoral Care Scholarship" fund at Covenant Theological Seminary, 12330 Conway Road, St. Louis, MO 63141 or FirstLight Ministries, PO Box 430142, St. Louis, MO 63143.

