

Dorothy Maxine Thompson

January 9, 1940 – July 24, 2011

Chapel Service

Piano Prelude – Traditional Hymns; Somewhere Over the Rainbow

Opening Prayer – Father today we are gathering in remembrance of our beloved Dorothy Thompson. She meant a great deal to all of us. She was a beloved wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, friend and best friend, work colleague, and neighbor. We know dear Father that at the time appointed you choose to give life, sustain life, and in your wisdom you end life here on earth. We are reminded of the words from the prophet that *all souls are mine*. We do not question your great and perfect will, we do not ask why is there suffering, why is there sickness, why is there death. We rely on the words of Jesus, who came to defeat sin, sickness, and death, who said *I am come that they might have life, and have it more abundantly*. Minister to our hearts this hour O Lord, and in the days ahead as we keenly feel the loss of our beloved Dorothy. Be our portion, strength, and comfort, in Jesus' name, amen.

Greetings on Behalf of the Family – Thank you one and all for being here today. There are others who strongly desired to be here yet due to unavoidable circumstances they could not attend. We appreciate their condolences and we thank you who are here, who in some cases moved mountains, gave up opportunities, and set aside needful duties to honor Dorothy Thompson and to be a blessing and a comfort to the immediate and extended family. It was Dorothy's request that we have a celebration of her life. If she were here, she would want you to remember the good times, the laughs, the fun events, the shared experiences, and the warmth and love between you and her. Let us honor Dorothy by doing just that today.



It is my privilege to lead the chapel service today. I am Dorothy's nephew. To me she was always Aunt Dorothy. She asked that my brother David and I would officiate her service when this time came. I welcome you to Cedar Park Church, the church that I attend and through whom I'm a certified minister of the Gospel. My brother Dave, an elder at Brier Community Church, will officiate the committal service at the gravesite.



It is a blessing to the family that you are here today to remember Aunt Dorothy. On their behalf again I thank you for being here.

Short Announcement – In the way of a short announcement, I invite you to be prepared to share a remembrance between you and Aunt Dorothy. Because of the size of the gathering I will hold the microphone the whole time, and I invite you to bless the family by sharing briefly so that others may share as well. If you are nervous, that's OK, many of us are nervous. If you are shy, that's OK too. We just want you to know that you have an opportunity to share. If you happen to

share from your seat, then please be brief as it will be awkward for me to continue my duties otherwise.

I shared how Dorothy requested that we remember and celebrate her life. Later we'll have a brief slide show of some recent and not-so-recent pictures of Dorothy and her family and friends. She also requested a specific hymn be played, and this is a favorite of hers and her two sisters, My Aunt Billie and my mom Shirley.

Hymn – On Eagle's Wings

About Dorothy – Dorothy Maxine Thompson was born in Bismarck, North Dakota, on January 9, 1940 and passed away on July 24, 2011. She was the youngest child of William Joseph Baker, and Verdis Maxine Place Baker. Dorothy was preceded in death by her parents, her two older brothers Robert Bruce Baker and his wife Georgia, and James Aaron Baker, and her son Scotty Thompson.



She is survived by her husband of 48 years, John R. Thompson, Jr.; her daughter and son-in-law Jill and Bill Weaver; her son and daughter-in-law Steven and Tiffany Thompson; and four grandchildren: Katie, Kelsey, Quentin, and Zoe Rose. She is also survived by her sisters Billie Fae Meinhardt and Shirley Ann Jordan Sonmor, sister-in-law Lila Josephine Baker, and numerous nieces and nephews and their spouses and children.

Dorothy enjoyed camping, being with family, and spending time with her grandchildren; years ago she was an avid bowler, once recording a 600 series over a three-game set. She actually was the league secretary for many years and was widely known as a skilled bowler. She worked at the Palladium Bowling Alley and later went to work for the Washington State Liquor Control Board, serving at the Kenmore and Magnolia stores, retiring after ten-plus years. She also enjoyed assisting her daughter Jill at the Kiddie Koop Daycare Center and was “grandmother” to literally hundreds of children.

Dorothy was known as a fun person with a great sense of humor, always having a kind word to say, and was loved and beloved by all those who knew her – friends and family alike. When we think of “good attitude” we think of Dorothy.

If you asked her, she'd say she lived a wonderful life. She will be missed greatly by all those who were especially close to her. Toward the end of her life she suffered from macular degeneration, which caused her to retire from her work and limited her ability to commute, but through it all she retained her great attitude, positive outlook and cheerful disposition. She passed away due to complications from respiratory illness, cancer, and diabetes. Yet even in the hospital during the last hours she still laughed, she still enjoyed the troupe of people coming to visit her, and joked and enjoyed saying “Good Times!” Anyone who was around Dorothy knew the meaning of Good Times!



Scripture Reading – The Revelation of Jesus Christ 21:1-6

¹And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. ²And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.

⁴And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. ⁵And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.

⁶And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.

Song – The Blessing The Celtic Women

Slide Show – How Do I Live? LeAnn Rimes

- **Family Sharing**
- **“Love You Forever” – A Favorite Children’s Book of Dorothy** – Reading by Katie Weaver
- **Congregational Remembrance** – Memories and stories about Dorothy



Message – Our Beloved Dorothy – 1st Corinthians 13:4-7, 11-13

As a Christian minister and chaplain to jail and prison inmates for over 30 years it’s been my responsibility to call upon the Lord to provide to me the needed Bible passages and messages for the sharing of the faith. This chapel service is no different, and I sought the Lord for that which would be meaningful and appropriate. It is my feeling that the Good Lord directed me to the New Testament book of First Corinthians, chapter thirteen. This is known as the great love chapter in the Bible. I have chosen some scriptures from this love chapter to share from today.

1 Corinthians 13:4-7, 12-13 Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud 5 or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. 6 It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. 7 Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always

hopeful, and endures through every circumstance.

12 Now we see things imperfectly as in a cloudy mirror, but then we will see everything with perfect clarity. All that I know now is partial and incomplete, but then I will know everything completely, just as God now knows me completely. 13 Three things will last forever—faith, hope, and love—and the greatest of these is love.

As I reflected on these scriptures it was easy, so very easy, to think of Aunt Dorothy.

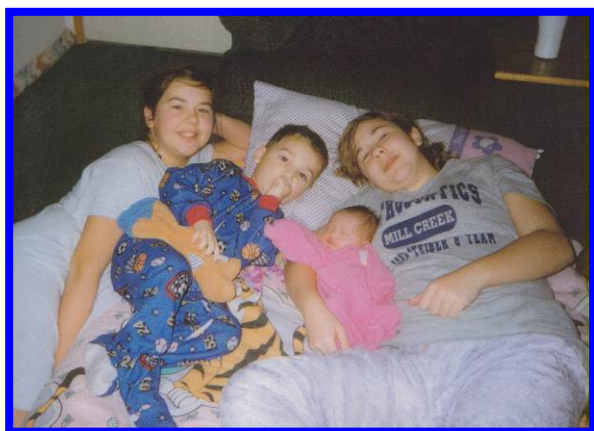
Love is patient and kind. Was not our dear Dorothy just this? She was kind. I don't think I ever heard a critical word from Dorothy, at least not directed toward me. And so patient. She never seemed to be in a hurry, but concerned for the welfare of others and always glad to see others.

Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. Dorothy was genuinely happy for the good fortune of others. She was thankful for what she had, and was willing to share to the benefit of others. Dorothy was considerate, this is how she was wired. But even when one is wired to be considerate and kind, they still have a choice in their behavior. Dorothy chose to be polite and considerate, and she was never rude.



Love does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. Aunt Dorothy wouldn't want herself to be portrayed as being perfect, that would embarrass her. Yet time and again I saw her yield to the wishes of others, and go out of her way to assist others, and to not want herself to be a burden to others. Anyone who knows Dorothy knows that she didn't keep any record of being wronged. No one gets out of this life without having someone wrong them – but keeping score is our choice, and Dorothy wasn't one to keep score of such things.

Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance. Dorothy had a disposition toward humor, toward fun, toward good times. She had to endure some very hard circumstances. Many here remember the day we lost Scotty, Dorothy's oldest son, to an unexpected and fatal accident. Scotty was so much like Dorothy, positive attitude, fun loving – a trait shared by his sister Jill and brother Steven. This was crushing to all of us, but how much more to his mother Dorothy. The next day she lost her brother Jimmy to an illness. It was a very trying time. She asked me to do Scotty's service, and she said she wanted a religious service, a Christian service. She never blamed God, but wanted God in Scott's service. Through it all Dorothy never lost faith, was always hopeful. Without bitterness, she endured every circumstance. That's a strong woman.



Now we see things imperfectly as in a cloudy mirror, but then we will see everything with perfect clarity. All that I know now is partial and incomplete, but then I will know everything completely, just as God now knows me completely. In her latter years Dorothy was legally blind. In this chapter the apostle Paul describes our faith in God and ability to discern the perfect will of God as likened unto a person looking in a mirror that is cloudy or foggy. Dorothy, having lost the sense of sight, was seeing in the natural unclearly, and

partially at best. I can say today that this is no longer an issue. Today she beholds the face of Jesus, her Savior and God.

Three things will last forever—faith, hope, and love—and the greatest of these is love. When we look back and remember Dorothy, and celebrate Dorothy’s life, can we not all agree that we are better off, and had a lighter load, and enjoyed things a little bit more because Dorothy was in our life? I can remember her for her faith that was tested severely when she suffered burns as a young mother. I can remember her for her hope and good attitude and desire to see others do well, and to rejoice with others. But I will remember Dorothy most for her love. I always felt welcome around her. I always felt accepted around her. I always felt good around her. I’m sure you did too. We can thank Almighty God that we knew Dorothy as a friend and family member. She was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, and so much more. She was a friend and a best friend. She was a hard worker and an encourager of others. She put others first. She had a wonderful life.

Earlier, we read in the Book of Revelation *And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new.*



Dorothy knew tears, she knew of death, she knew sorrow and crying and she knew pain. Today God has wiped away all her tears. Today she sees better than any of us here can see. Today she understands better than any of us understand. Today she has a head full of jet black hair. Today there are no respiratory issues, there is no oxygen tube. Today there is no diabetes and at the Great Marriage Supper of the Lamb she won’t have to eat the sugar-free foods. There is no cancer in heaven that ravages the frail human body and takes people before their time. No, today Dorothy is with Jesus the Savior, with Jesus the friend of sinners, with the one who suffered and died so that men and women might have life and have it more abundantly.



On the evening before her death I held Dorothy’s hand and we prayed together again. I shared some select Bible verses, such as *whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved* and she agreed with these verses. I told her Jesus is waiting for her with open arms, and in her weakened state she looked up at me, had a big smile, and with one eye still open and with labored breathing she spread her own arms and said “with open arms” and she smiled the Dorothy smile.

For the Christian, death is still an enemy, but Jesus has conquered death and the grave. There will be a resurrection from the dead for those who died in Christ Jesus. Today, in the Chapel of the Resurrection, we remember that there is indeed a resurrection from the dead on that great day. And thus for the Christian, though the pain is real when death separates us, the pain would be much more acute if there was no hope of the afterlife with God in Heaven and being reunited with our loved ones who have preceded us. For Dorothy I don’t say goodbye, I say “I’ll see you in a little while.” And the words from the Book of the Revelation bring comfort as John the Apostle says, *Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.*

Closing Prayer – Father God, you are so very, very good to us. We feel the calmness of your Holy Spirit even in our midst this day and in the recent days past. Our burden is lifted because you are the great Burden Bearer. Our path is made more sure because you are the Great Shepherd, and our great hope for salvation is in you because you are the Great Savior. To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord, for those who place their trust in Him. Today O Lord, in our grief and heartache mingled with joy and celebration, we remember that it is you who created Dorothy to be the kind of person she was, and you placed her in our family and amongst these dear friends here, and indeed I remember the words of the apostle Paul to the church, which are ever so appropriate now, *I thank my God upon every remembrance of you.* And I do thank God upon my every remembrance of my Aunt Dorothy. World without end, amen.



Song – *It's a Wonderful World*; Louis Armstrong

Announcements – Next steps, viewing instructions, motorcade, maps, short time of visiting then proceed to the committal service.

Viewing and Egress – *My Heart Will Go On* Celine Dion; *Angel* Sarah McLachlan; *Every Breath You Take* The Police

Piano Conclusion –
Somewhere Over the Rainbow



Service Monday, August 1, 2011

- 9-10:30am Viewing, 11am Service | Chapel of the Resurrection | 16300 112th Avenue NE | Bothell, WA 98011
 - Chaplain Bob Jordan, Cedar Park Assembly of God, Dorothy's nephew, Officiating
 - Pianist – Rebecca Jordan
- 1:30 – 2pm Committal Service | Evergreen Washelli | 1111 Aurora Avenue North | Seattle, WA 98133
 - Elder Dave Jordan, Brier Community Church, Dorothy's nephew, Officiating
- 2:30 – 4pm Reception & Refreshments | Jillian's Kiddie Koop | 5421 196th St SW Ste. 1 | Lynnwood, WA 98036
 - Jill Weaver, daughter; Katie and Kelsey Weaver, granddaughters, hostesses
- Flower arrangements joyfully provided by the Billie Meinhardt family.

Committal Service

Pallbearers

- John Thompson, Husband
- Steven Thompson, Son
- Bill Weaver, Son-In-Law
- Bob Baker, Nephew
- Mark Meinhardt, Nephew
- Tony Meinhardt, Nephew

Honorary Pallbearers

- Tom Meinhardt, Nephew
- Michael Baker, Nephew
- Bob Jordan, Nephew
- David Jordan, Nephew
- Marc Portsmouth, Nephew-In-Law
- Michael Pitts, Nephew-In-Law
- Brent Welch, Nephew-In-Law
- Chris Leptich, Family Friend

Introduction:

Greetings and welcome on behalf of the family of Dorothy Thompson. The pallbearers today were ... (above). The family is grateful for and comforted by your presence here this afternoon. My name is Elder Dave Jordan and it was my privilege to have known Dorothy, she was my Aunt. This is a time of remembrance of Dorothy's life and how she has touched so many others. We have gathered on this day to celebrate her life and to encourage her family.

We grieve the loss of a devoted wife, a mother, a grandmother, a sister, aunt and dear friend because she has been called home to heaven.

Prayer:

Heavenly Father we come to you on this occasion with heavy hearts. We grieve for the loss of one so dear and precious to us. The sadness of Dorothy's absence from us is tempered by our knowledge that she is now in your presence Lord. I pray today that you will comfort this family and these friends. Comfort them with the good life that Dorothy lived, with the fond memories we have of her time with us. Lord I pray for your peace, an abiding peace to be given to those here that mourn her loss. I pray these things in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Opening Scripture Reading:

John 14:1-3 *Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms. 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, that where I am you may be also.*

Matthew 11:28 *Come to me all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.*

Dorothy's life and impact on us:

When I have thought about how to describe Dorothy for today I kept coming back to the same word "family". She was devoted to her family and they meant everything to her. She told me many times over the years that she was married to her best friend. John and Dorothy were married 48 years. She was a devoted wife. She lived for her children and was always there for them. They were the great joy of her life. She was a loving mother. Even still when the grandchildren came along she loved on each of them as well. She was a "spoil the grandkids and send them back afterwards" kind of grandmother. Dorothy's love and caring for others, both family and friends, was at the core of who she was.

What I will miss the most in the future is not being able to drop in to visit with Dorothy or to talk with her at family gatherings. It was a certainty that no matter how good of a day I was

having, spending some time visiting with Dorothy would make it even better. She had such a wonderful sense of humor and would always make me laugh. It just was not possible to be around her for very long and not feel happy and optimistic about life.

In each of our lives there are different people that influence who we are and how we look at life and the world around us. We can look back over a long period of time and see their positive impact in our life. Many of us here today have been greatly blessed to have been a part of Dorothy's life. Though she is gone from our sight she will always be dear to our hearts.

Closing Scripture Reading:

In the closing days of her time with us I shared several passages of scripture with Dorothy. I would like to read one of them for you now.

Psalm 23:1-6 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Closing Prayer:

Heavenly Father we give thanks today that Dorothy is in your, tender care, that by your grace she has received her inheritance of your Kingdom. It is our joy that she is in your presence Lord. Still, we grieve over our loss as we were not truly prepared to let her go. We were blessed to have been allowed to share in Dorothy's life. Lord I ask that you comfort the family as they go forward without her now. I pray these things in the name of Jesus. And we remember today the Lord's Prayer, and how you taught us 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.*

Closing and Dismissing:

On behalf of the family I would like to thank all of you for coming and showing your love and support to them during this time. It means a lot to them that you are here today.

I encourage you to remember the family in this time of grieving after today has passed. Please give them a call or an email maybe send a thoughtful card telling them your prayers are with them.

There will be a reception immediately following the service at Jillian's Kiddie Koop in Lynnwood. The family cordially invites everyone to join them and to continue in celebrating Dorothy's life today. It would be a wonderful blessing to the family if you can attend.

Let us exit west through the cemetery so as to enter Aurora Avenue, heading northbound. We drive about eight miles and turn right onto 196th St SW in Lynnwood. Then, take the third left onto 56th Avenue West, then a quick right and look for Suite 1, Jillian's Kiddie Koop. Maps are available from me if you need one. All are invited for sharing and light refreshments.

Again thank you for coming this concludes the service. May the Lord bless you; go in peace.