

Ruth (Robin) Chalmers instructions for her memorial service – as of May 2008, after her move to Cambridge MA, transcribed by Nicky, July 2014.

PRELUDE: (RC attached sheet containing the following)

*(As the Pascal Candle, symbol of the Light of Christ, is carried into the church, the congregation stands and the following anthems are said by the Officiant:)*

I am Resurrection and I am Life, says the Lord.  
Whoever has faith in me shall have life,  
even though he die.  
And everyone who has life,  
and has committed himself to me in faith,  
shall not die for ever.  
As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives  
and that at the last he will stand upon the earth.  
After my awakening, he will raise me up;  
and in my body I shall see God.  
I myself shall see, and my eyes behold him  
who is my friend and not a stranger.  
For none of us has life in himself,  
and one becomes his own master when he dies.  
For if we have life, we are alive in the Lord,  
and if we die, we die in the Lord.  
So, then, whether we live or die,  
we are the Lord's possession.  
Happy from now on  
are those who die in the Lord!  
So it is, says the Spirit,  
for they rest from their labors.

Minister: The Lord be with you

People: And also with you.

Let us pray.

Oh God, who by the glorious resurrection of your son Jesus Christ destroyed death, and brought life and immortality to light: Grant that your servant Robin, being raised with him, may know the strength of his presence, and rejoice in his

eternal glory; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

(Omit the prayer for grieving family)  
The people sit.

(Omit Liturgy of the Word.)

Psalm 122 in unison (not Psalm 23)

[RC does not specify which version. Below is King James NNH]

*Psalm 122 King James Version (KJV)*

*122 I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord.*

*<sup>2</sup> Our feet shall stand within thy gates, O Jerusalem.*

*<sup>3</sup> Jerusalem is builded as a city that is compact together:*

*<sup>4</sup> Whither the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, unto the testimony of Israel, to give thanks unto the name of the Lord.*

*<sup>5</sup> For there are set thrones of judgment, the thrones of the house of David.*

*<sup>6</sup> Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee.*

*<sup>7</sup> Peace be within thy walls, and prosperity within thy palaces.*

*<sup>8</sup> For my brethren and companions' sakes, I will now say, Peace be within thee.*

*<sup>9</sup> Because of the house of the Lord our God I will seek thy good.*

Philippians 4: 4-8 (only)

[Again, RC does not specify version. Below is King James- NNH]

*<sup>4</sup> Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice.*

*<sup>5</sup> Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand.*

*<sup>6</sup> Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.*

*<sup>7</sup> And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.*

*<sup>8</sup> Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.*

Then instead of Gospel: Romans 8: 24-39 (only)

[Again, RC does not specify version. Below is King James- NNH]

*<sup>24</sup> For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for?*

*<sup>25</sup> But if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it.*

*<sup>26</sup> Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.*

*<sup>27</sup> And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.*

*<sup>28</sup> And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.*

*<sup>29</sup> For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.*

*<sup>30</sup> Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.*

*<sup>31</sup> What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?*

*<sup>32</sup> He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?*

*<sup>33</sup> Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth.*

*<sup>34</sup> Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.*

*<sup>35</sup> Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?*

*<sup>36</sup> As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.*

*<sup>37</sup> Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.*

*<sup>38</sup> For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,*

*<sup>39</sup> Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

Remarks by family (if they wish)

Homily by Addie [former minster] (if she wishes)

HYMN: Turn Back O Man [attached to instructions]

To the tune of Hymn #149, 1982 Hymnal  
(Words are from #536, 1940 Hymnal – Old 124<sup>th</sup>)

Turn back, O man, forswear thy foolish ways.  
Old now is earth, and none may count her days,  
Yet though, her child, whose head is crowned with flame,  
Still wilt not hear thine inner God proclaim,  
“Turn back, O man, forswear thy foolish ways.”

Earth might be fair, and all men glad and wise. – “all folk”? [RC notes]  
Age after age their tragic empires rise,  
Built while they dream, and in that dreaming weep; - “folk”?  
Would man but wake from out his haunted sleep, - “their haunted sleep”?  
Earth might be fair, and all men glad and wise. – “folk”?

Earth shall be fair, and all her people one;  
Nor till that hour shall God’s whole will be done,  
Now, even now, once more from earth to sky  
Peals forth in joy man’s old, undaunted cry, - (leave “man’s”)  
Earth shall be fair, and all her folk be one!”

Clifford Bax, 1919

### The Lord’s Prayer

Prayer #63, p. 833 in prayer book, “In the Evening,”  
“O Lord, support us all the day long...”

*O LORD, support us all the day long, until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then in thy mercy grant us a safe lodging, and a holy rest, and peace at the last. Amen.*

Omit responses

Omit commendation (“our sister Ruth”)

Omit The Commendation except:

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Robin. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Receive her into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light.

The Blessing

Go forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; fight the good fight; that you may finish your course with joy. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you, and remain with you forever. Amen

FINAL HYMN: On Our Way Rejoicing (old #568, attached)

In a previous (1993) directive about her memorial service, RC says:

I would like a religious memorial service, with Psalm 122 and only these three hymns: “Fight the Good Fight” (1940 hymnal #113 but tune #552 in 1982 hymnal; “Turn Back, O Man [same as above]; and “On Our Way Rejoicing” [same as above]. Please substitute, if necessary, in this order: (1) “Lord Dismiss Us” – new #344 (only if “on Our Way Rejoicing” is not available); (2) “For the Beauty of the Earth”;\* (3) Awake My Soul Stretch Every Nerve” (new #546). If you cannot find these hymns, cut down the number; please make no further substitution. \*(new #416)

I would also like Prayer #3 in the new prayerbook, “for the Human Family.”

Please tell the minister that I was known both as Robin and Ruth, although I thought of myself as Ruth.