

*Goodbye*

*is not forever.*

*When you lived your life for others and you  
loved without condition,*

*when you made so many **laugh***

*your **smile** won't be forgotten,*

*when you left behind an empty place  
that no one else can fill,*

*when the **friendships** that you shared  
long to be renewed,*

*when you build your life on **hope**  
and fulfilled it every day,*

*the **footprints** that you left behind  
will bring us face to face.*

*So, goodbye*

*is not forever, you're only*

***steps away.***



*A Service of  
Death,  
Resurrection,  
&  
Celebration*

*for*

***LaVonne M.  
Beeson***

*September 23, 1931  
to  
April 28, 2010*

*May 3, 2010  
11:00 a.m.*



**SUNCREST  
United Methodist Church  
479 Van Voorhis Road  
Morgantown, WV 26505**

# AN ORDER OF WORSHIP & CELEBRATION

## THE PRELUDE

Mary Morrison, Cello

## THE GATHERING

Dying, Christ destroyed our death.  
Rising, Christ restored our life.  
Christ will come again in glory.  
As in baptism LaVonne put on Christ,  
so in Christ may she be clothed with glory.  
Here and now, dear friends, we are God's children.  
What we shall be has not yet been revealed; but we know that when he appears,  
we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.  
Those who have this hope purify themselves as Christ is pure.

## THE WORD OF GRACE

Jesus said, I am the resurrection and I am life.  
Those who believe in me, even though they die, yet shall they live,  
and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die.  
I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last.  
I died, and behold I am alive for evermore,  
and I hold the keys of hell and death.  
Because I live, you shall live also.

## \*THE GREETING

**Leader:** Friends, we have gathered here to praise God and to witness to our faith  
as we celebrate the life of LaVonne Beeson.  
**People:** **We come together in grief, acknowledging our human loss.  
May God grant us grace, that in pain we may find comfort,  
in sorrow hope, and in death resurrection.**

## \*THE HYMN

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

#140

## \*THE PRAYER (Unison)

Rev. William Kinsey

**Eternal God, we praise you for the great company of all those who have finished their course  
in faith and now rest from their labor. We praise you for those dear to us whom we name in  
our hearts before you. Especially we praise you for LaVonne, whom you have graciously re-  
ceived into your presence. To all of these, grant your peace. Let perpetual light shine upon  
them; and help us so to believe where we have not seen, that your presence may lead us  
through our years and bring us at last with them into the joy of your home not made with  
hands but eternal in the heavens; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSONS

Psalm 23 and Psalm 121

## THE NEW TESTAMENT LESSONS

Philippians 4:8,& 9 and John 14:1-3

## THE SPECIAL MUSIC

“New Beginnings”

Kristen Antolini, Soloist

## THE SERMON

“A More Excellent Way”  
I Corinthians 12:31-13:13

Rev. Tim W. Halloran

## THE WITNESS

*Pastor, family, friends, and members of the congregation may briefly voice their thankfulness to  
God for the grace they have received in the life of the deceased and their Christian faith and joy.*

## \*THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (Unison)

**God of love, we thank you for all with which you have blessed us even to this day:  
for the gift of joy in days of health and strength and for the gifts of your abiding  
presence and promise in days of pain and grief.  
We praise you for home and friends, and for our baptism and place in your Church  
with all who have faithfully lived and died. Above all else we thank you for Jesus,  
who knows our grief, who died our death and rose for our sake, and who lives  
and prays for us. And as he taught us, so now we pray:**

## \*THE LORD'S PRAYER

## \*THE HYMN

“Abide with Me”

# 700

## \*THE BENEDICTION

## \*THE POSTLUDE

Janna Kisner, organist

\* Indicates congregation standing

*The family would like to thank you for being a part of LaVonne’s celebration today, and you are invited  
to a luncheon afterwards downstairs in Cowan Hall, prepared by the United Methodist Women and the  
Compassion Team.*