

A Celebration of Life



In Loving Memory of
Frances Ainley McDowell

August 19, 1935 – March 12, 2025

A Service In Witness to the Resurrection of
Frances Ainley McDowell
Saturday, April 12, 2025, 1:30 PM
Downtown United Presbyterian Church
Rochester, N.Y.

Prelude

Hymns of Our Faith

Words of Welcome

The Rev. Gail Ricciuti

Prayer of Invocation

*Hymn

It Is Well with My Soul
(Verses 1, 3 and 4, Music may be found on pg. 5)

VILLE DU HAVRE

Scripture Reading

Proverbs 31:10-31

Cassidy Poynter,
Granddaughter

Remembrances from fellow volunteers

Jeanne Fusco and Joelle Maurer, Girl Scouts
Marion Deprez and Mary Leist, AXO Sorority Alumnae Chapter
Eileen Hartmann, AAUW

Music for Reflection

Claire de lune
from Suite Bergamasque

Claude Debussy

Scripture Reading

John 14:1-7, 25-27

Ethan Poynter,
Grandson

Family Remembrances

Danielle Meder, granddaughter
David and Mary McDowell

Meditation

Rev. Ricciuti

Pastoral Prayer
The Lord's Prayer

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us
not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the Kingdom, and
the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

*Hymn	'Tis the Gift to Be Simple (Music may be found on pg. 6)	SIMPLE GIFTS
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Commendation		Rev. Ricciuti
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Musical Response	Ave Maria	Franz Schubert Alan Jones, voice and piano
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Benediction		Rev. Ricciuti
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Postlude	Toccata, from Symphonie V	C.M. Widor
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Girl Scout Taps

Fran has asked that her final Girl Scout event end with the singing of
Girl Scout Taps, the traditional closing of Girl Scout meeting.
All present are asked to stand, link hands (right over left) and sing together:

"Day is done, gone the sun,
From the lake, from the hills, from the sky;
All is well, safely rest, God is nigh."

When the singing is completed, give a gentle squeeze to the hands
of those next to you and then leave in silence.

Following the conclusion of Girl Scout Taps, everyone is invited to a reception
in the Hallock Lounge to share memories and greet the family.

The McDowell family wishes to express their deep appreciation to each of you for your presence today. Thank you also to the Deacons of Downtown United Presbyterian Church for all their kindness.



Fran's Life

Frances Ainley McDowell passed away peacefully on March 12, 2025. She was born in Providence Rhode Island on August 19, 1935 to Catherine and Reginald Ainley. She received her BSc in Nursing Education and her RN from the University of Rhode Island. She leaves her husband of almost 68 years, David Quincy McDowell, and five children, eight grand--children, and four great-grandchildren.

Frances taught clinical nursing at the Nursing School associated with St Mary's hospital in Rochester until her children arrived. She later worked as a full and part-time school nurse in various schools in Monroe County and as a Hospice nurse at Shepherd Home in Penfield NY.

Frances had been a Girl Scout as a youth and when her girls became eligible for Scouting, she became actively involved in what would become a lifetime commitment. Over the years she was a Troop Leader, a Service Team Leader, a Trainer, and she served for 9 years on the Council Board of Directors. She also led or actively coordinated many Council and Inter-Council activities. She attended 5 Girl Scout National Conventions. For 15 years she was the Penfield coordinator for the International Exchange program with Girl Guides in the Hamilton Ontario area. She is the recipient of the Girl Scouts Thanks Badge, the Girl Scouts Thanks Badge II, and the Presidents Lifetime Volunteer Service Award. At the time of her passing she was still actively involved in the GSWNY Archive Committee.

Frances was heavily involved in the activities of One World Goods for 25 years, both as a store volunteer and in various committee leadership roles. She served on the OWG Board of Directors for 13 years where she was the Secretary for 6 years.

Frances was a member of the Gamma Sigma Gamma Alumnae Chapter of her college Sorority, Alpha Chi Omega. She has been part of the leadership team for the Chapter and has been the Treasurer for 35 years.

Frances was a member of the Fairport Branch of AAUW where she served as Treasurer.

Frances and David are long time members of the Downtown United Presbyterian Church and one of its predecessor congregations, Central Presbyterian Church.

She loved her family, and enjoyed needlework, cooking and entertaining. Whenever, family was in town was an excuse for a large family dinner around the kitchen table. She also enjoyed travelling and was able to travel extensively with her husband, both domestically and internationally, during his involvement with industry associations.

In lieu of flowers please consider donating to One World Goods, 3349 Monroe Ave, Rochester NY 14618, Girl Scouts of Western NY , 3495 Winton Pl Building C, Suite 2, Rochester, NY 14623, or Shepherd Home, 1959 Five Mile Line Rd, Penfield, NY 14526

It Is Well with My Soul

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1. When peace, like a riv - er, at - tend - eth my way, when sor - rows like
2. Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, let this blest as -
3. My sin—O the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought!—my sin, not in
4. O Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight, the clouds be rolled



sea bil - lows roll; what - ev - er my lot, thou hast taught me to say,
sur - ance con - trol, that Christ has re - gard - ed my help - less es - tate,
part, but the whole, is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more;
back as a scroll; the trump shall re - sound, and the Lord shall de - scend;



“It is well, it is well with my soul.”
and has shed his own blood for my soul. It is well
praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! It is well
“E - ven so”—it is well with my soul.



with my soul;
with my soul; it is well, it is well with my soul.



'Tis the Gift to Be Simple 657



The musical score is written on seven staves in G major (one sharp) and 2/4 time. The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics written below each staff. The lyrics are: 'Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be free, 'tis the gift to come down where we ought to be, and when we find our-selves in the place just right, 'twill be in the val - ley of love and de - light. When true sim - plic - i - ty is gained to bow and to bend we shan't be a-shamed, to turn, turn, will be our de-light till by turn - ing, turn - ing we come round right.

'Tis the gift to be sim-ple, 'tis the gift to be free, 'tis the
gift to come down where we ought to be, and
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Text: Shaker Song, 18th. C.

Tune: SIMPLE GIFTS; acc. Margaret W. Mealy, b.1922, © 1984



*"May the road rise up to meet you, may the wind be always at your back,
may the sun shine warm upon your face, and the rains fall soft upon your fields,
and until we meet again, may God hold you in the hollow of His hand."*

Celebrants

The Rev. Gail Ricciuti, officiant

Alan Jones and Lee Wright, musicians

