



A Celebration of the Life of
Alice E. Kidder
April 20, 2024

**FIRST CHURCH
IN CAMBRIDGE**
Congregational 1633-1636
United Church of Christ
Garden and Mason Streets
Cambridge, Massachusetts

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

VOLUNTARY

***HYMN (insert)** When Morning Gilds the Skies

WORDS OF WELCOME

Rev. Daniel Smith

OPENING PRAYER

READING

Psalm 139:1-18
Read by House Church members: Lindsay Miller,
Jim and Chris Reynolds, Marian Smith and Peggy Stevens

WORDS OF REMEMBRANCE

Paris Swindle
Karlene Griffiths Sekou

ANTHEM

Sheep May Safely Graze J.S. Bach

WORDS OF REMEMBRANCE

Steve Kidder
Lucinda Kidder

ANTHEM

Jazz 5:30 Medley Carolyn Wilkins

HOMILY

***HYMN (insert)** I've Got Peace Like A River

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

(Please pray this prayer and address God in words most meaningful to your heart.)

**All: Our Creator, 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**

**You are invited to stand.*

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 forever. Amen.

CLOSING WORDS

“On the Death of the Beloved”
by John O’Donohue

Dave Kidder

***HYMN 364**

This Little Light of Mine

***BENEDICTION**

*The family invites you to join them for a reception
and time to share further memories of Alice
following the service in Margaret Jewett Hall.*

Participating in the Service

Rev. Daniel A. Smith, *Senior Minister*

Peter Sykes, *Organist and Director of Music*

Carolyn Wilkins, *Piano and First Church “Jazz 5:30” leader*

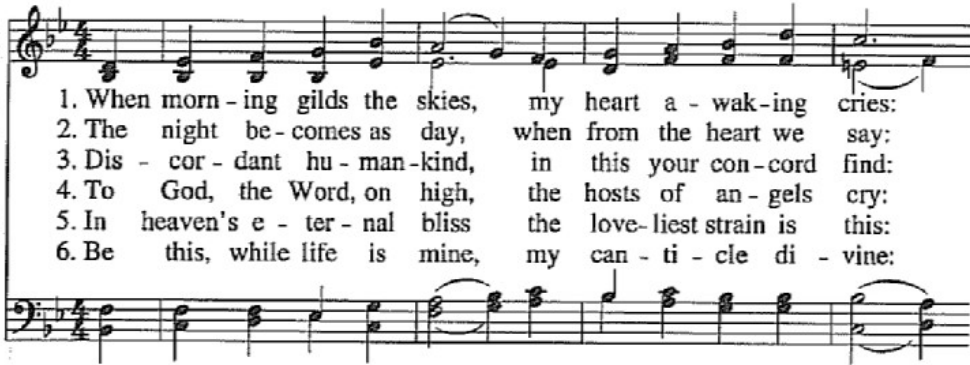
Lindsay Miller, Jim and Chris Reynolds, Marian Smith and Peggy Stevens, *members of Alice and Dave’s Tuesday morning online “house church” that has been meeting and reading Psalm 139 weekly since Covid began*

Paris Swindle and Karlene Griffith Sekou, *Alice’s comrades in the beautiful struggle*

David Kidder, Steve and Lucinda Kidder, *Alice’s family*

OPENING HYMN

When Morning Gilds the Skies



1. When morn - ing gilds the skies, my heart a - wak - ing cries:
 2. The night be - comes as day, when from the heart we say:
 3. Dis - cor - dant hu - man - kind, in this your con - cord find:
 4. To God, the Word, on high, the hosts of an - gels cry:
 5. In heaven's e - ter - nal bliss the love - liest strain is this:
 6. Be this, while life is mine, my can - ti - cle di - vine:



may Je - sus Christ be praised! A - like at work and prayer,
 2. may Je - sus Christ be praised! The grace of God is near
 may Je - sus Christ be praised! Let all the earth a - round
 4. may Je - sus Christ be praised! Let mor - tals, too, up - raise
 may Je - sus Christ be praised! Let air, and sea, and sky
 6. may Je - sus Christ be praised! Be this the e - ter - nal song



I joy - ful - ly de - clare: may Je - sus Christ be praised!
 2. when this sweet chant we hear: may Je - sus Christ be praised!
 ring joy - ous with the sound: may Je - sus Christ be praised!
 4. their voice in hymns of praise: may Je - sus Christ be praised!
 from depth to height re - ply: may Je - sus Christ be praised!
 6. through all the a - ges long: may Je - sus Christ be praised!

CLOSING HYMN

This Little Light of Mine

1. This lit-tle light of mine, (of mine) I'm gon-na let it shine; (Oh _)

(of mine) (Oh _)

Detailed description: This system contains the first two staves of music. The top staff is a vocal line in G major, 4/4 time, with lyrics: "1. This lit-tle light of mine, (of mine) I'm gon-na let it shine; (Oh _)". The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment with chords and a simple bass line. The lyrics "(of mine)" and "(Oh _)" are placed below the piano staff.

This lit-tle light of mine, (of mine) I'm gon-na let it shine; (Oh _)

Detailed description: This system contains the second two staves of music. The top staff continues the vocal line with lyrics: "This lit-tle light of mine, (of mine) I'm gon-na let it shine; (Oh _)". The bottom staff continues the piano accompaniment. The lyrics "(of mine)" and "(Oh _)" are placed below the piano staff.

This lit-tle light of mine, (of mine) I'm gon-na let it shine;

(of mine)

Detailed description: This system contains the third two staves of music. The top staff continues the vocal line with lyrics: "This lit-tle light of mine, (of mine) I'm gon-na let it shine;". The bottom staff continues the piano accompaniment. The lyrics "(of mine)" are placed below the piano staff.

let it shine, let it shine, let it shine. (oh, let it shine.)

st. 1-4

Detailed description: This system contains the final two staves of music. The top staff continues the vocal line with lyrics: "let it shine, let it shine, let it shine. (oh, let it shine.)". The bottom staff continues the piano accompaniment. The lyrics "st. 1-4" are placed below the piano staff.

2. This great joy I have, I'm gon-na let it shine . . .
3. Ev-'ry-where I go I'm gon-na let it shine . . .
4. All- through the night I'm gon-na let it shine . . .

“ON THE DEATH OF THE BELOVED” BY JOHN O’DONOHUE

Though we need to weep your loss,
You dwell in that safe place in our hearts,
Where no storm or night or pain can reach
you.

Your love was like the dawn
Brightening over our lives
Awakening beneath the dark
A further adventure of colour.

The sound of your voice
Found for us
A new music
That brightened everything.

Whatever you enfolded in your gaze
Quickened in the joy of its being;
You placed smiles like flowers
On the altar of the heart.
Your mind always sparkled
With wonder at things.

Though your days here were brief,
Your spirit was alive, awake, complete.

We look toward each other no longer
From the old distance of our names;
Now you dwell inside the rhythm of
breath,
As close to us as we are to ourselves.

Though we cannot see you with outward
eyes,
We know our soul’s gaze is upon your face,
Smiling back at us from within everything
To which we bring our best refinement.

Let us not look for you only in memory,
Where we would grow lonely without you.
You would want us to find you in presence,
Beside us when beauty brightens,
When kindness glows
And music echoes eternal tones.

When orchids brighten the earth,
Darkest winter has turned to spring;
May this dark grief flower with hope
In every heart that loves you.

May you continue to inspire us:

To enter each day with a generous heart.
To serve the call of courage and love
Until we see your beautiful face again
In that land where there is no more
separation,
Where all tears will be wiped from our
mind,
And where we will never lose you again.

OBITUARY

Alice E. Kidder
February 23, 1941 - March 10, 2024
A Fighter for Social and Racial Justice

Throughout her life, Alice Kidder worked tirelessly to end homelessness, defeat the scourge of white supremacy and repair the social and economic damages created by racism. She inherited her passion for social justice from her grandfather, who helped found Heifers International. Her experience researching racial wage differentials in the Greater Boston area, and her later years of university teaching in Georgia and North Carolina led her to a lifetime dedication to the struggle for racial justice.

Surrounded by members of her family, Alice died peacefully on March 10 in Boston. She was 83 years old. Alice was born in Los Angeles, CA, in 1941, and grew up in Easton, PA, where her father was Chair of the Lafayette Economics Department. She earned an Honors Degree in political science from Swarthmore College and a PhD in economics from MIT. Her first teaching positions at Spelman College and Atlanta University brought her into contact with students and faculty who were immersed in the civil rights movement led by the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Alice later taught economics at North Carolina A&T State University and Syracuse University, where she won grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation to establish a Transportation Institute. She also studied the provision of paratransit services in rural areas and the impact of trucking deregulation on rural towns. At Babson University, in addition to directing the Office of Sponsored Research, Alice organized a national conference on ways to alleviate famine in Africa.

In 1987, Alice moved from academics to social services, becoming Executive Director of WHEAT Community Services in Clinton, MA. While there, responding to the local absence of shelter facilities, Alice organized Host Homes for the Homeless, a program to place homeless individuals and families for one or two weeks in the homes of volunteers in the Clinton area.

As a member of First Church in Cambridge, UCC, Alice joined others in the Beloved Community group to learn about slaveholding by church members in the 17th and 18th centuries, to educate the congregation on the church's history and to respond by creating a First Church Reparations Fund. She was also active in the Greater Boston Interfaith Organization, over 50 faith communities, unions and community groups using their collective power to achieve specific objectives in areas such as affordable housing and healthcare.



Grounded in God
Growing in Community
Acting in Love

Much as she was consumed by her social justice work, Alice loved being with her children and grandchildren, at home, on the beach at Cape Cod and at the Kidder family summer cottage on Spring Lake in upstate New York. As an only child, she reveled in the experience of large family gatherings where she could catch up with members of the extended family, swim, toast some marshmallows with the kids, enjoy a game of minor-league baseball, picnic on the lawn at Tanglewood, and play Monopoly with the grandchildren and the card game "Oh Hell" with the adults.

Alice is survived by her husband of 60 years, David Kidder; her daughter, Deborah Kidder, her husband, Robert Wolff, and their children, Nigel Kidder-Wolff and Aidan Kidder-Wolff; her son, Stephen Kidder, his wife Lisa Kidder, and their children, Talia Kidder and Zero Kidder. In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to Solutions at Work, Inc., 1151 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA 02183. Solutions at Work, Inc. is a 501 c(3) non-profit organization dedicated to breaking the cycle of poverty and homelessness by providing individuals and families with resources and opportunities to strengthen their self-confidence, achieve self-sufficiency, and participate in helping others.

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