

The Reverend Doctor Stacey Simpson Duke



June 4, 1971 - February 27, 2023

March 10, 2023
First Baptist Church
517 East Washington Street
Ann Arbor, Michigan

The Reverend Doctor Stacey Simpson Duke
A Service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving

Order of Worship

March 10, 2023

PRELUDE

<i>O How Blessed Are Ye Whose Toils Are Ended</i>	Brahms
<i>Give Me Jesus</i>	Billingham
<i>Psalm 29:11</i>	Callahan
(The Lord will bless His people with peace)	
<i>O God, Thou Faithful God</i>	Kerg-Elert
<i>How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds</i>	Darke
<i>What a Friend</i>	DeCou

CALL TO WORSHIP

Heather Entrekin

INTROIT

How Can I Keep from Singing?

Coley Roberts, *soprano*

My life goes on in endless song above earth's lamentations,
I hear the real, though far-off hymn that hails a new creation.
Through all the tumult and the strife I hear its music ringing,
It sounds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from singing?

While though the tempest loudly roars, I hear the truth, it liveth.
And though the darkness 'round me close, songs in the night it giveth.
No storm can shake my inmost calm, while to that rock I'm clinging.
Since love is lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?

When tyrants tremble in their fear and hear their death knell ringing,
When friends rejoice both far and near, how can I keep from singing?
In prison cell and dungeon vile our thoughts to them are winging,
When friends by shame are undefiled, how can I keep from singing?

GREETING AND INVOCATION

*HYMN 529

How Firm a Foundation

FOUNDATION

ANTHEM

At the River

adapted by
Aaron Copland

Shall we gather by the river where bright angels feet have trod,
With its crystal tide forever flowing by the throne of God.
Yes, we'll gather by the river, the beautiful, beautiful river,
Gather with the saints by the river that flows by the throne of God.

Soon we'll reach the shining river, soon our pilgrimage will cease,
Soon our happy hearts will quiver with the melody of peace.
Yes, we'll gather by the river, the beautiful, beautiful river,
Gather with the saints by the river that flows by the throne of God.

REMEMBRANCES

Rob Duke
Charlie Duke
Marissa Alaniz
Xan Morgan
Robbie Stapleton

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Theme for Stacey"

Sloan Simpson

SCRIPTURE

ANTHEM

The Lord Is My Shepherd
(Psalm 23)

Howard Goodall
Sam Kidd, *baritone*

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want;
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures;
He leadeth me beside the still waters.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the
shadow of death, I will fear no evil;
for you are with me, you will comfort me.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life;
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

REFLECTION

PRAYER

***HYMN 377**

It Is Well with My Soul

VILLE DU HAVRE

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

How Great Thou Art

Dan Miller

* Please stand if you are able

Pastor: The Reverend Dr. Heather Entrekin

Organist: Shin-Ae Chun

Choir Director: Bonnie Kidd

Sound: John Krienke

Streaming: Bob Myers

*After the service, please join us downstairs
in the Fellowship Hall as we continue
to remember and celebrate
Stacey's life with us.*

The Reverent Doctor Stacey Simpson Duke, age 51, of Ann Arbor, died on Monday, February 27.

Stacey was born in Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. As an army brat, she moved seven times by the age of 10 and attended a different school every year until junior high. After graduating high school in Columbus, Georgia, she attended Furman University in Greenville, South Carolina, where she graduated with her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Religion in 1993. She then went to seminary at Candler School of Theology, Emory University, in Atlanta, graduating with her Master of Divinity Degree in 1996. She later went back to school and earned her Doctor of Ministry Degree with a focus on Gospel and Culture from Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Georgia in 2017.

Stacey was married to the Reverend Dr. Paul Simpson Duke on February 10, 2001. Together they served as Co-Pastors at First Baptist Church of Ann Arbor for the past 22 years and as the American Baptist Campus Ministers to University of Michigan students. Since 2011, Stacey also served as the Minister to Youth at First Baptist. Prior to their shared ministry in Ann Arbor, she served as pastor of Fellowship Baptist Church in Edison, Georgia, for almost 5 years. At the time she was one of only two female Baptist pastors in the state. The Lily Foundation selected the church as one of America's outstanding Protestant churches.

Stacey was vibrant, fierce, funny, creative, resilient, filled with life and love. She loved writing, teaching, preaching, knitting, running, singing, reading, improv, cooking, baking, and being a good friend and a great mom. She had

a large online following. Stacey lived with stage-four cancer (leiomyosarcoma) for 6 years, and her many posts, honest and brave, about her experience with cancer were an inspiration to many. She leaves a legacy of countless people whose lives were deeply touched by her example, her faith, and her love.

Stacey is survived by her husband, Paul; her twin sons, Robert (Rob) and Charles (Charlie); her brother, Sloan Simpson of Athens, Georgia; her like-a-sister cousin, Sheree (Ty) Tolbert of Columbus; her step-daughter, Stephanie (Leonard) and their two sons, Jack and Taylor, of Baton Rouge, Louisiana; her step-son, Chris (Lindsay) and their two sons, Benjamin and Oliver, of Ann Arbor; her brother-in-law, John Duke of Birmingham, Alabama; her sister-in-law, Marcia Duke of Liberty, Missouri; her nephew, Wesley (Katie) Duke of Kansas City, Missouri; her niece, Hillary (Jason) White of Arlington Heights, Illinois; her great nephews and great nieces; and many more beloved relatives and friends. She was preceded in death by her mother, Bernice Simpson; her father, Colonel Robert B. Simpson; her mother-in-law, Wilma Duke; and her brother-in-law, David Nelson Duke.

A memorial service will be held at First Baptist Church of Ann Arbor at 1:00 on Friday, March 10, with the Reverend Dr. Heather Entrekin officiating. Visitation will be at 12:00 at the church. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to First Baptist Church of Ann Arbor, 517 East Washington Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48104, or Amos Health and Hope (PO Box 6155 Hermitage, PA, 16148-0922), or Leiomyosarcoma Support and & Direct Research (LMSDR), PO Box 2697 Tulsa, Oklahoma 74152.