

A Celebration
of the Life of
Cynthia L. "Cindy" Reichard

February 25, 1952 ~ August 19, 2021



Mt. Lebanon UMC
September 25, 2021

A Creation

By Denise Reichard – Sister-in-law

One day God said:

“A creation I shall make.

She will be authentic, a joy for goodness’ sake!

Her gift will be her loving for all the world to see.

She’ll reflect the inner beauty that only comes from me.

Her eyes will sparkle, and her smile will be grand.

She’ll mingle in with people as often as she can.

Her mind will not be like those with a PhD,

But her special style of wisdom will be all that she will need.

Her simple life and caring ways will endear those she knows

And everyone she meets in life will know how love grows.

Yes, a creation I shall make – a joy for all to see.

And if you chance to meet her, how lucky you will be!”

We want to thank all of you for coming to Cindy’s Celebration of life service. We, Cindy’s family, are broken hearted that she’s gone, but we know where she is and who she is with, and that gives us great peace. Those of you who knew Cindy know that first and foremost she was a ‘party girl.’ She loved to sing, dance, and celebrate life with her family and housemates and friends. She enjoyed life to the fullest. The other thing is that she was an incredible person who loved with a child-like innocence. This is the Cindy we will remember, and the one we celebrate today. The songs for today’s service are one’s that Cindy loved to sing, and the scriptures are one’s that have brought our family great comfort in times of loss. Thanks for being with us. God bless you.

Betty and Ed Reichard, Dave Reichard, Tim Reichard and Beth Loeper and families.

Celebration of the Life of Cynthia L. "Cindy" Reichard

September 25, 2021

Mt. Lebanon UMC

Prelude:

Gathering Words:

Call to Worship:

Sarah E. Weaver (C) 2025

L: Jesus said: 'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me.'

P: *We believe in Jesus Christ, whose resurrection gives us eternal life.*

L: Jesus said with blessed assurance: 'In my Father's house, there are many dwelling places.'

P: *Dwelling places prepared for us, children of God.*

L: Jesus promised: 'If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you there myself, so that where I am, there you may be also.'

P: *We give thanks for the promise that when it is time for us to leave our earthly lives, Jesus carries us home to be with God. We gather today to celebrate Cindy's life and to bear witness to her resurrection. Thanks be to God!*

Hymn:

In the Garden

#314

Opening Prayer: (In Unison)

Source: <https://prayer.knowing-jesus.com/Funeral-Prayers>

Dear God, it is always hard to say goodbye to those that we love and that have died. We know that Cindy will be missed by so many who are still here. But God, you also remind us that the death of any of your children is very special to you and we want to join together to thank you for life of your child Cindy, who was such a wonderful daughter and sister, and example to all of your love and grace. We thank you, God, for the ways Cindy blessed us in this life. We give you thanks that she is now at rest in your loving embrace. Thank you for her life and the many happy memories that we all share. God, we pray that you will be a special comfort, to uplift and care for those that will feel the greatest loss, her family, relatives and her housemates and friends.

Help us to remember that although we are separated for a time, we will all rejoice one day when we stand together in your presence. Thank you that this night of weeping will pass very quickly, and we will all be rejoicing in your presence on that glorious morning when we will all be reunited in the hope that is set before us. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Scriptures:

Psalm 23: Dean Loeper - Nephew

Psalm 121: Megan Jarmusz: Niece

Selections from 1 Corinthians 15: Jamie Rudnycky: Niece

Selections from John 14: Nicholas Loeper: Nephew

| | | |
|-------|-------------|------|
| Hymn: | Spirit Song | #347 |
|-------|-------------|------|

Family Remembrances:

Denise Reichard – Sister-in-Law

Dave Reichard – Brother

Rev. Dr. Tim Reichard – Brother

| | | |
|----------------|------------------------------|--------------------|
| Special Music: | Tell Me the Stories of Jesus | Mrs. Deborah Boots |
|----------------|------------------------------|--------------------|

| | |
|----------|---------------------|
| Message: | Rev. Tom Strandburg |
|----------|---------------------|

| | |
|------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Pastoral Prayer: | Rev. Cynthia Reichard – Sister-in-law |
|------------------|---------------------------------------|

| | |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| Closing Prayer: | Rev. Tom Strandburg |
|-----------------|---------------------|

| | | |
|---------------|----------------|------|
| Closing Hymn: | Jesus Loves Me | #191 |
|---------------|----------------|------|

Benediction:

Postlude:



We'd like to share an adaptation of a reflection written by Denny Davis entitled, "Think of me as a person."

At times people look at me with pity, concern or indifference, for I am a special needs person. But you only see the outside of me. If I could express myself, I would tell you what I am inside. I am very much like you. I feel pain and hunger. I cannot pour myself a glass of water, but I know the parched dry feeling of thirst, I itch when mosquitoes bite me and run when I see a bee. I feel cozy drinking cocoa in the kitchen when a snowstorm blusters outside.

Though it is comfortable to be babied, I am less dependent when people treat me as a complete person. I am slow, and many things you take for granted are hard for me. I can hardly understand what "tomorrow" means. I don't want their sympathy; I want their respect for what I can do, and the gifts I have.

So think of me first as a person, who hurts and loves and feels joy. And know I am a special creation of God to encourage and love. Smile, and say hello, and come into my world to meet me, and in doing so, you will find I'm no different from you or anyone else. www.dennydavis.net

We'd like to end by expressing our deepest sympathies and thanks to Cindy's housemates, the Mainstay staff at Howard Avenue and her friends at the TAC program of Chartier's Center.

Thank you for blessing her and being her family.

We'd like to also express our deepest thanks and appreciation to the following individuals for their help in coordinating the service for today:

Rev. Tom Strandburg – Pastor, Mt. Lebanon UMC.

Mitchell Stecker – Director of Music, Mt. Lebanon UMC.

Mrs. Deborah Boots – Special Music

Monica Kao – Communications Coordinator, Mt. Lebanon UMC.

Todd Kaczorowski – Tenband Productions.

Pete Santore – Funeral Director, Laughlin Funeral Home.