



**THE COMMUNITY OF ST. PHILIP
AT WORSHIP**

JULY 13, 2024

A SERVICE OF WITNESS TO THE RESURRECTION

IN MEMORY OF

DOROTHY NELL GUINN BLACKWELL

MAY 16, 1931 – JUNE 6, 2024

PRELUDE

OPENING SENTENCES

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

✠ **HYMN 804**

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart

MARION

✠ **PRAYER**

**Eternal God,
our strength and our comfort,
our hope and our help,
your love cares for us in life
and watches over us in death.
We praise you for the great company
of all those who have kept the faith,
finished their race,
and who now rest from their labor.
Especially we thank you for Dorothy,
whom you have now received into your presence.
We are grateful for all she gave us,
for the memories that will abide with us,
and for the assurance that she lives forever
in the peace and joy of your unending love.
Take from us now our regrets and sorrows,
and grant us your grace, we pray,
that as we face the mystery of death
we may see the light of eternity,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

silent prayer

Holy One, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

✠ **DECLARATION**

REMEMBRANCES

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

1 Corinthians 13
Romans 8 (selected verses)
John 3:16-17, 14:1-3

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

For the Beauty of the Earth

John Rutter

SERMON

✠ **HYMN 816**

If Thou But Trust in God to Guide Thee

WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

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.**

ANTHEM

Pie Jesu

Andrew Lloyd Webber

✠ **HYMN 821**

My Life Flows On

HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING

✠ **COMMENDATION**

✠ **BLESSING**

✠ **RECESSIONAL**

*Following the service, everyone is invited to a reception
in the Gathering Area adjacent to the Sanctuary.*

Worship Leaders

Rev. Dr. John W. Wurster

St. Philip Choir
Matthew Dirst, Organist
Justin Langham, Director of Music



DOROTHY NELL GUINN BLACKWELL, 93, of Houston ended her earthly journey on June 6, 2024. Born in Hereford, TX on May 16, 1931, she grew up on a small ranch outside Friona where her father James Theodore (JT) Guinn raised cattle and wheat, and her mother Florence Daily raised ‘everything else.’ She learned to sew beautifully as a middle schooler and in her teenage years wore clothes she made from feed sack calico but cut and sewn according to the latest Vogue patterns. Electricity didn’t make it to the farm until 1945. Dorothy finished college a year before it was connected to a telephone line.

She began studying voice with the pastor’s wife of the First Presbyterian Church of Hereford, where she sang every Sunday in the choir. She continued her studies at Trinity University before completing her degree as a Red Raider at Texas Tech.

Music was always an important part of her life. Before her marriage to Robert Jerry Blackwell, Sr. in 1955 she was the assistant superintendent for music education for the Spring Branch Independent School District, responsible for developing a music curriculum for all the schools in the district. After marriage, music was her avocation, singing in many different choirs and performing ensembles for over 60 years.

Dorothy was a loving and involved mother to her children: son Jerry and daughters Guinn and Colleen. Florence McKelvey Bunch has been another daughter in Mom’s heart for many decades. She delighted in her grandchildren Christopher (and his wife Noor), Jonathan, Benjamin, and Daniel and was thrilled to welcome great-grandson Edward a year and a half ago. Having always been close to her older sisters June and Carmel Lee, after the latter’s passing her new sister-in-law Ann Morgan became her best friend for over 30 years.

In addition to orchestrating her household, Dorothy was an active volunteer whenever she perceived a need, from serving as a Cub Scout and Girl Scout leader to helping with the Adult Plus program at First Presbyterian Church, Houston for decades. She started picking up and bringing elders to this Thursday program when she was a young adult and continued until she was older than most of the participants coming for Thursday fellowship. For some of these folks, she also provided rides for grocery shopping and doctors visits, and helped one disabled woman find assistive housing when she could no longer live alone.

Dorothy served as a deacon, an elder, a Stephen minister, and as the president of Presbyterian Women at First Presbyterian Church of Houston, and sang in their choir for over 40 years. She was heartbroken when that congregation left the PCUSA and was delighted to be welcomed so warmly at St. Philip Presbyterian Church of Houston.

She was active in her music fraternity, Mu Phi Epsilon, and supported their scholarship program; as well as that of Houston’s Tuesday Musical Club.

In recent years, she was active on the board of United Campus Ministry of Greater Houston, supporting their outreach to students at several Houston area campuses, and serving more than one year as board chair.

After she was widowed in 2002, Dorothy treated her girls to at least one ‘big trip’ each year, traveling the world to places her younger self could not imagine having the opportunity to visit. She climbed to the Sun Gate at Machu Pichu in her 70’s and spent a month on an African photo safari at 88.

Gentle, upbeat, and always ready to see the best in every person and circumstance, Dorothy was very aware of her blessings, and grateful that a little girl from a tiny town in north Texas could enjoy a life surrounded by love and filled with adventures.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to either:

United Campus Ministries of Greater Houston (UCM), 3841 Cullen Blvd. Room 208, Houston, Texas 77204, or online at [United Campus Ministry of Greater Houston | Donate \(ucmhouston.com\)](https://www.ucmhouston.com). Please designate donation to Dorothy Blackwell Endowment Fund.

Houston Tuesday Musical Club— c/o Kimberly Weill, 2726 Bissonnet St., #240-401, Houston, TX 77005 or online at www.houstontuesdaymusicalclub.org. Please designate to the Scholarship Fund in memory of Dorothy Blackwell.