

En Voyage
By Carlyle Emery

*There's a ship sailing on to a harbor,
To a haven of comfort and rest;
It's a ship of God's fashion and making,
And its voyage by Him will be blest.
It departed with silence and beauty,
With the Master, Himself, in command;
As with dignity truly majestic
It sailed out of sight of all land.*

*There will always be clear skies above it;
There will always be calmness below
There will never be storms to harass it,
For the Master is on it, you know,
And His wisdom will carry it safely
To the port of His infinite peace,
Where the light of His love will protect it
With a blessing that never will cease.*

*You have watched it sail onward and outward,
With a tear of regret in your eye,
For a loved one was sailing upon it,
And there's grief when you're saying goodbye.
But your tears would be tears of rejoicing.
And your heart would be happy and free,
If you could look for only a moment
On that ship that is sailing to sea.*

*For the one you have loved is at leisure,
With no worry or trouble or care;
There's contentment beyond understanding,
In the way God's passengers fare.
And you'd know from your own observation
That the sailing was joyful—not grim,
For it means a new life and new living,
And a sweet, closer contact with Him.*

*Oh, the solace there is in the knowledge,
Life is life and it always will be,
And it's simply a change of direction
When we sail on His ship out to sea.
And the tears that we shed for our loved ones
Are in truth shed for us left behind,
For it hurts to give up to the Master,*

This poem was selected and read
at Jan's father's funeral service.

*United Congregational Church of Tolland
United Church of Christ*

A Celebration of Life



Organ at Bath Abbey, UK

Janice Abild Bittner

June 22, 1945—January 21, 2022

A Celebration of the Life of Jan Bittner
February 26, 2022

“I loved a woman who loved me in return,
and this was the greatest gift I could ever have hoped to receive.”

~Nicholas Sparks

GATHERING MUSIC

A selection of Jan and Bob’s favorite music

Bob would like to dedicate the Rachals piano which Jan and he gave to their church in memory of Jan.

WELCOME

INTROIT “Pie Jesu”

(Susie Lotreck)

Gabriel Fauré

OPENING SENTENCES AND PROMISES OF GOD

HYMN “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

Pilgrim Hymnal, No. 8

OPENING PRAYER

ANTHEM “Brother James’s Air” (Psalm 23)

Gordon Jacob

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Psalm 100

Romans 8:31-35, 37-39

SPECIAL MUSIC “Time to Say Goodbye”

(Susie Lotreck)

Francesco Sartori

A TIME OF REMEMBRANCE

SPECIAL MUSIC “He Shall Feed His Flock Like a Shepherd; Come Unto Him” Handel

(Susie Lotreck, Carole Frassinelli)

REMEMBERING THE PROMISES OF GOD

ANTHEM “On Eagle’s Wings”

Michael Joncas

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

“The Lord’s Prayer”

(Susie Lotreck)

Albert Hay Malotte

HYMN “For All the Saints”

Pilgrim Hymnal, No. 306

COMMENDATION OF THE SPIRIT

SPECIAL MUSIC “Softly As I Leave You”

(Carole Frassinelli, Susie Lotreck)

Tony De Vita

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE “Toccata” from Organ Symphony No. 5

Charles-Marie Widor

Please remain seated through the end of the postlude and hold applause.

Officiants: Rev. Dr. Jeffrey M. Gallagher, Senior Pastor

Lydia Hoffman, Student Pastor

Organ and piano: Allan Conway, Minister of Music

Soloists: Susie Lotreck, Carole Frassinelli

The UCCT Chancel Choir