

Celebration of the Life of Dennis E. Murphy

First Unitarian Church of Austin

March 18, 2023 at 11:00 am

Prelude: Spiegel im Spiegel Arvo Part

Opening Words & Assurances of God's Love: Rev. Amelia Fulbright

*Be present, Spirit of God,
within us, your dwelling place and home,
that this house may be one where
all darkness is penetrated by your light,
all troubles calmed by your peace,
all evil redeemed by your love,
all pain transformed in your suffering,
and all dying glorified in your risen life. Amen.*

Hymn: "In Heavenly Love Abiding"

Invocation Dr. Dave Ross

*God our Creator, our centre, our friend,
we thank you for our good life,
for those who are dear to us,
for our dead, and for all who have helped and influenced us.
We thank you for the measure of freedom we have,
and the extent to which we control our lives;
and most of all we thank you for the faith that is in us,
for our awareness of you and our hope in you.
Keep us, we pray you, thankful and hopeful
and useful until our lives shall end. Amen.*

The Witness of Scripture Matthew 25:31-46 (KJV) Dr. Mel Oakes

Eulogy: Rev. Tom VandeStadt

Meditation in Music Howard Goodall

*"Lacrymosa: Do Not Stand at My Grave and Weep"
from Eternal Light: A Requiem (2008)*

Stories & Words of Remembrance

A prayer by Samuel F. Pugh Dr. Rambie Briggs

*O God, when I have food,
help me to remember the hungry;
When I have work,
help me to remember the jobless;
When I have a home,
help me to remember those who have no home at all;
When I am without pain,
help me to remember those who suffer,
And remembering,
help me to destroy my complacency;
bestir my compassion,
and be concerned enough to help,
By word and deed,
those who cry out for what we take for granted.
Amen.*

Hymn: "God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me"

Words of Commitment & Benediction: Rev. Fulbright

Postlude: "A Noiseless, Patient Spider" Jonathan Geer

Special thanks to the musicians who participated in the service today:
Jonathan Geer, Amy Harris, Liz Lee, and Laura Martin

If you would like to learn more about Dennis' life, a full obituary can be found here:

https://www.statesman.com/obituaries/paco0444606?fbclid=IwAR29OjSWo1QfGTGA2Q7UuYFzgZ5b3JnO_UxG7MX7n3AeJMdxIDNjJ6hf3ig

A beautiful tribute written by Mel Oakes can be found here:

<https://www.patandmeloakes.com/PatandMelOakesFamilySite/MensBookClub/DennisEMurphy.html>

In lieu of flowers, the family encourages donations to the Round Rock Serving Center, Micah 6 of Austin, or The Dennis and Norma Jane Murphy Endowed Scholarship, recently established at Huston-Tillotson University in Austin, Texas.

A Celebration of Life



Dennis Eugene Murphy

November 17, 1941 ~ December 4, 2022