

Celebration of Life
for
Sophia Lucille Willoughby



April 25, 2021 at 3:00pm (Zoom)
St. Andrew Presbyterian Church

Officiating
The Rev. Anne H. McAnelly



Hope becomes Peace

Peace becomes Joy

Joy becomes Love

Love becomes Faith

A Service of Witness to the Resurrection
for
Sophia Lucille Willoughby
April 10, 2002- February 13, 2021

PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME AND HOPE

HYMN **“Shall We Gather at the River”**

PRAYER OF COMFORT AND ASSURANCE

POEM **“When Great Trees Fall”** **Maya Angelou**
Keri Petersen

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE:

Ecclesiastes 3:1-4 Lorena Russo
Romans 8:38-39 Kelly Gaeckle

REMEMBERING SOPHIE WILLOUGHBY

Rev. Anne McAnelly
Michael Lanham
Erin Grover
Maya Sexton
Nate Rockhold

SOLO **“Make Me a Channel of Your Peace”**
Michelle Miracle

VIDEO MONTAGE

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING

INVITATION TO RECEPTION

BLESSING

When Great Trees Fall - Maya Angelou

When great trees fall,
Rocks on distant hills shudder,
Lions hunker down in tall grasses,
And even elephants lumber after safety.
When great trees fall in forests,
Small things recoil into silence,
Their senses eroded beyond fear.
When great souls die,
The air around us becomes light, rare, sterile.
We breathe, briefly.
Our eyes, briefly, see with a hurtful clarity.
Our memory, suddenly sharpened, examines,
gnaws on kind words unsaid,
promised walks never taken.
Great souls die and our reality, bound to them,
takes leave of us.
Our souls, dependent upon their nurture, now shrink, wizened.
Our minds, formed and informed by their radiance, fall away.
We are not so much maddened
as reduced to the unuttered ignorance of dark, cold caves.
And when great souls die, after a period peace blooms,
slowly and always irregularly.
Spaces fill with a kind of soothing electric vibration.
Our sense, restored, never to be the same, whisper to us.
They existed. They existed.
We can be. Be and be better.
For they existed.

'Life is eternal, and love is immortal, and death is but a horizon; and a horizon is nothing save the limit of our sight.' William Penn