

# St. John's United Church of Christ

Vincennes, Indiana

May 9, 2026

11:00a.m.

*A Celebration of Life*

*For*

***Ellen A. Riggs***

July 8, 1941 – May 3, 2026

*Pre-Service Music*

DeEtta Welte

*Greeting*

*\*Hymn*

*In the Garden*

#227

*\*Prayer* (unison)

**Holy God, whose ways are not our ways and whose thoughts are not our thoughts, grant that your Holy Spirit may intercede for us with sighs too deep for human words. Heal our wounded hearts made heavy by our sorrow. Through the veil of our tears and the silence of our emptiness, assure us again that ear has not heard, nor eye seen, nor human imagination envisioned what you have prepared for those who love you; through Jesus Christ, the firstborn from the dead. Amen.**

*Scripture*

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

John 14:1-3

Psalm 23

*SOLO*

*How Great Thou Art*

Jonathan Clark

*Message*

Rev. Debbie Jo Atkins, Pastor

*Words of Remembrance*

John Riggs

*Affirmation of Faith* (unison)

**We believe there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, and we know that in everything God works for good with those who love God, who are called according to God's purpose. We are sure that neither death nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

*Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession*

*Commendation*

*\*Hymn*

*In the Bulb There is a Flower*

#638

*Benediction*

*Recessional*

The Riggs family gives our deepest thanks for your presence with us today. Your expressions of sympathy, love, and remembrances of Ellen will comfort us during this difficult time.

You are invited to stay for the funeral meal following the service. We would love to share this time with you as we recall more stories and happy memories.

## Psalm 23

*The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside still waters, he restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord, forever.*