

John B Marshall

Dr. Carlos Velez

PNM 442–Pastoral Methods

April 25, 2021

Committal Service:

The minister shall precede the pallbearers to the grave, standing at the head the minister shall say:

We are gathered at this graveside to lay to rest Ruth Bell Graham. On behalf of the family, I thank you for joining us today, and for your love and support.

Our Lord Jesus says, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it produces much grain. He who loves his life will lose it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. If anyone serves Me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also (John 12:24-26).

“I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die” (John 11:25-26).

Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father’s house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also. “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me (John 14:1-3, 6).

Insomuch as it has pleased our Sovereign Lord, in His wise providence to call, Ruth, one whom we love from this life unto Himself, by our faith in Christ Jesus, we are confident that as she leaves this earthly life – absent from this body, she is present with the Lord. We, therefore, commit her body to the ground, earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust, looking for that blessed hope when the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God, and the dead in Christ shall rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17).

Now may the God of peace who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you complete in every good work to do His will, working in you what is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen (Hebrews 13:20-21),