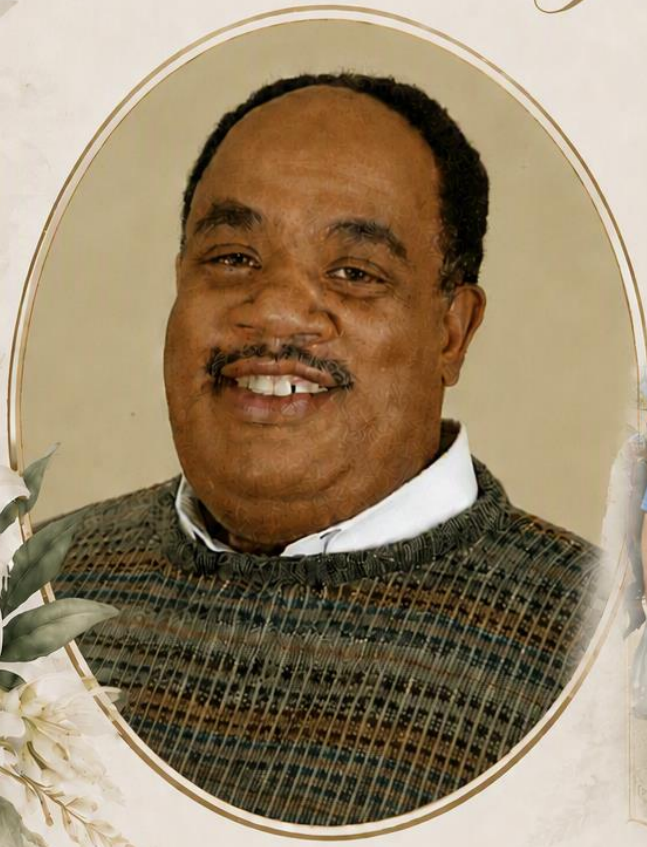
IN LOVING

Memory



KEITH HARRIS

March 27, 1960 - July 4, 2026

"oh what a miracle of a life"

MEMORIAL SERVICE

SEPTEMBER 12TH AT 1PM

McKinley Presbyterian Church

A Celebration of the life of

Rev. Keith Charles Harris

March 27, 1960 – July 6, 2026

Saturday September 12, 2026, 1:00pm

McKinley Memorial Presbyterian Church/Livestream

Officiants: Rev. Laura Sherwood and Rev. Heidi Weatherford Pianist: Andrew Woodruff

PRELUDE MUSIC – Various selections on piano ending with Amazing Grace

WELCOME and SENTENCES OF SCRIPTURE Rev. Laura Sherwood

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe[a] in God; believe also in me. **2** In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?[b] **3** And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. (John 14:1-3)

PRAYER

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.

*** HYMN #423** *Great is Your Faithfulness*

REFLECTIONS OF A LIFE

Joshua Harris – Son

Nathan Harris – Son

Diane Harris – Sister

Kevin Harris - Brother

*** HYMN #593** *Lift Every Voice*

READING FROM THE SCRIPTURES

Matthew 25:31-40 Andrea Miller

31 "When the Son of Man comes in his glory and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the
throne of his glory. 32 All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one
from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, 33 and he will put the sheep at his
right hand and the goats at the left.

34 Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit
the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world, 35 for I was hungry and you gave me
food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, 36 I
was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you
visited me.'

37 Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food
or thirsty and gave you something to drink? 38 And when was it that we saw you a stranger and
welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? 39 And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison
and visited you?'

40 And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these
brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.'

Psalm 139:1-18 David Griffiths

1 O Lord, you have searched me and known me.
2 You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
you discern my thoughts from far away.
3 You search out my path and my lying down
and are acquainted with all my ways.
4 Even before a word is on my tongue,
O Lord, you know it completely.
5 You hem me in, behind and before,
and lay your hand upon me.
6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is so high that I cannot attain it.

7 Where can I go from your spirit?
Or where can I flee from your presence?
8 If I ascend to heaven, you are there;
if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.
9 If I take the wings of the morning
and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,
10 even there your hand shall lead me,
and your right hand shall hold me fast.
11 If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me,
and night wraps itself around me,"[a]
12 even the darkness is not dark to you;
the night is as bright as the day,
for darkness is as light to you.

13 For it was you who formed my inward parts;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.

14 I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully
made.
Wonderful are your works;
that I know very well.
15 My frame was not hidden from you,
when I was being made in secret,
intricately woven in the depths of the earth.
16 Your eyes beheld my unformed substance.
In your book were written
all the days that were formed for me,
when none of them as yet existed.[b]
17 How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God!
How vast is the sum of them!
18 I try to count them—they are more than the sand;
I come to the end[c]—I am still with you.

MEDITATION Rev. Heidi Weatherford

SPECIAL MUSIC *It is Well with My Soul* Kevin Harris

CLOSING PRAYERS Rev. Laura Sherwood

O God, today we celebrate a life well lived. We pause to remember other lives well lived, specifically, those persons we have loved who have died before us. We pause to remember them now… *(short silence)*. We give thanks for their lives and for the life of Keith Harris: for all in him that was good and kind, for his wit and intellect, for his passion and compassion. We are grateful that, for him, pain has ended and suffering has ceased. Also, we are thankful for our hearts and memories, which will keep Keith and all our loved ones present to us in wonderful, but intangible, ways throughout the remainder of our days. Amen.

*** SONG** *O What a Miracle Am I* by Hap Palmer

(favorite of Keith's to sing to his children)

Led by Kevin Harris

COMMENDATION Rev. Heidi Weatherford

Remember we are stardust, **and to stardust we return.**
Remember we are connected, **and to connection we return.**
Remember we are part of the great mystery, **and to the great mystery we return.**
Remember we are from the dust of eternity, **and to eternity we return.**

From the McKinley Ash Wednesday Service

Into your hands, O merciful God, we commend our beloved, Keith. Acknowledge, we humbly pray, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a man who knew your voice of liberation and love. Receive him, into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace. Amen.

From the Book of Common Worship (adapted)

CLOSING PRAYER (unison)

Support us, Lord, all the day long, until the shadows lengthen, and the evening comes, the busy world is hushed, the fever of life is over, and our work is done; then Lord, in your mercy, give us safe lodging, a holy rest and peace at the last. Amen.

BENEDICTION Rev. Laura Sherwood

POSTLUDE Photo Slideshow with favorite recording of *You Raise Me Up*

The family is grateful for your presence today.

All are invited for a memorial reception

in the Foundation Welcome Center (main floor)

Share a Favorite Memory or Story of Keith.

Look for pages at entrances of the Church and Foundation.
Write your memory to leave for the family.

Memorial donations may be made to:

McKinley Presbyterian Church

in memory and honor of Keith Harris.

Select "Memorial fund in memory of Keith Harris" from the dropdown list of Fund options

McKinley Presbyterian Church is a Community of faith
Offering genuine welcome,
Working for reconciliation, and
Daring to speak words of abundant hope to a world in pain.

McKinley Memorial Presbyterian Church 217.344.0297 WWW.MCKINLEYCU.ORG
Mailing address: 410 E. Daniel St, Champaign, IL 61820
Physical address: 801 S. 5th Street, Champaign