

A Service of Worship

in memory of Kenneth V. Dodgson, M.D.

March 10, 1926–July 12, 2026



Thajiwas Glacier, Sonamarg, Kashmir, India, June 1973; Ken Dodgson, watercolor.

Life Is a Journey

**A Service to the Glory of God
and in Celebration of the Life of Kenneth V. Dodgson, M.D.
Saturday, September 26, 2026**

First Baptist Church of Rochester
The Reverend Joanne Gilbert-Cannon, Pastor

Chiming of the Hour

Seating of the Family

Welcome

Prelude	<i>Toccata in D minor, BWV 565</i>	J.S. Bach
	Cheryl Frank, guest organist	

Call to Worship	<i>The Quest of the Historical Jesus</i>	Albert Schweitzer
	Alison Klooster	

*Hymn	<i>Unto the Hills around Do I Lift Up</i>	Please turn page
	Based on <i>Psalms 121</i>	

Scripture	<i>Matthew 4:18-22 (NRSV)</i>
	Anya Klooster

Music for Meditation	<i>Fantaisie-Improvisation in C-sharp minor, Op. posth. 66</i>	F. Chopin
	Cooper Labinger, piano	

Prayer of Thanksgiving	Dr. Angela D. Sims
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Response	<i>The Lord's Prayer</i>	A.H. Malotte
	Eli Labinger, bass	

Reflections	<i>written by Kim, Kit, and Carol</i>
	Jeremy Lyon Taylor

*Hymn	<i>All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name</i>	#106
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Scripture	<i>Isaiah 52:7 and Romans 10:14-15</i>
	Rev. Joanne Gilbert-Cannon

**Please stand either in body or in spirit*

Response	<i>Ave Maria</i> Miriam Arellano, mezzo	F. Schubert
Prayer for Illumination	Rev. Joanne Gilbert-Cannon	
Homily		
Benediction		
Postlude	<i>Widor Toccata</i> from Symphony No. 5 in F minor, Op. 42 Cheryl Frank, guest organist	C.M. Widor

*The family would like those in attendance to experience the Postlude.
Please remain seated until the family has withdrawn from the sanctuary.*

*The family invites you to join them for a reception in Hubbell Hall
immediately following the service.*

Memorial donations may be made to:
First Baptist Church of Rochester, 175 Allens Creek Road,
Rochester, NY 14618

Service Participants

Rev. Joanne Gilbert-Cannon, senior pastor, First Rochester
Dr. Angela D. Sims, President, Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School

Ken and Sally's grandchildren:
Alison Klooster
Anya Klooster
Cooper Labinger
Eli Labinger and Miriam Arellano
Jeremy Lyon Taylor

Samuel Baker, organist
Cheryl Frank, guest organist
Audio/Visual: Oliver Hood and Janet Richardson

Unto the Hills around Do I Lift Up

1 Un - to the hills a - round do I lift up my long - ing
 2 He will not suf - fer that thy foot be moved: safe shalt thou
 3 Je - ho - vah is him - self thy keep - er true, thy change - less
 4 From ev - ery e - vil shall he keep thy soul, from ev - ery

eyes: O whence for me shall my sal - va - tion come, from
 be. No care - less slum - ber shall his eye - lids close who
 shade; Je - ho - vah thy de - fence on thy right hand him -
 sin: Je - ho - vah shall pre - serve thy go - ing out, thy

whence a - rise? From God the Lord doth come my cer - tain
 keep - eth thee. Be - hold, our God, the Lord, he slum - bereth
 self hath made. And thee no sun by day shall ev - er
 com - ing in. A - bove thee watch - ing, he whom we a -

aid, from God the Lord, who heaven and earth hath made.
 ne'er, who keep - eth Is - rael in his ho - ly care.
 smite; no moon shall harm thee in the si - lent night.
 dore shall keep thee hence - forth, yea, for ev - er - more.

CCLI#887992

Text: Ps.121; para. John Campbell, The Marquis of Lorne (1845-1914).
 Music: Charles H. Purday (1799-1885).

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 SANDON
 Alt. setting 342

**Please stand either in body or in spirit*

Kenneth Vincent Dodgson

Kenneth Vincent Dodgson, M.D., died on July 12, 2026, at his home at St. John's Meadows, Rochester, NY. Born March 10, 1926, in Mentone, IN, Ken was the second of the four children of Arthur Stanley Dodgson and Ruth Naomi Roth Dodgson. He earned his A.B. degree from Franklin College, Franklin, IN, in 1946 and the B.D. degree from Colgate-Rochester Divinity School (now CRCDS) in 1948, and, entering medical school in 1949, received his M.D. from Temple University Medical School in 1953. In 1976 he received an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from Franklin, and in 2011 the Distinguished Alumni Award from CRCDS.

From a young age, he was committed to following in the path of his maternal grandfather, father, and older brother in becoming a minister in the American Baptist Church. However, to fulfill a science requirement at Franklin, he enrolled in a zoology course, which involved much drawing, which he enjoyed. At the end of the semester, his professor asked if he had considered a career in medicine. That question changed the course of his life: he began to consider how to pursue both ministry and medicine.

While in college, Ken had been active in Baptist Youth Fellowship, serving on the Indiana Executive Committee, the National Board, and then, while national president in 1948-49, leading a delegation of Baptist young people from the U.S. to the Third Baptist World Youth Congress in Stockholm the summer of 1949. That was his first trip overseas.

Ken met Sally Lewis when both were members of the Executive Committee of Indiana Baptist Youth Fellowship and members of the National Council of Baptist Youth Fellowship. They were married July 4, 1952, in the First Baptist Church, Terre Haute, IN. Their first years of marriage were spent in Moorestown, NJ, where their first daughter was also born. Ken finished his final year of medical school, his internship at Temple University Hospital (1953-54) and a general surgery residency at Burlington County Hospital, Mt. Holly, NJ (1954-56).

During his divinity and medical school years, Ken's desire to intertwine the vocations of ministry and medicine remained. For both Ken and Sally, serving overseas was the answer. In April 1955, the Board of the American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (now Board of International Ministries) commissioned them to Jorhat, Assam, in Northeast India, which became their home from March 1957 to mid-1981. As chief surgeon at the Jorhat Christian Medical Centre, Ken expanded the surgery program, trained colleagues in surgery, and, by necessity, acted as a hospital architect for the 175-bed hospital, 50-bed tuberculosis sanatorium, and 30-bed leprosy clinic. He designed a new nurses' hostel, leprosy clinic, outpatient department, and operating room suite, among other building projects.

The 10 years that Ken and Sally had expected to spend working and living in Jorhat grew to 24 happy and fulfilling ones for the Dodgson family, which by 1961 included the addition of two more daughters. Throughout the rest of his life, Ken spoke of the years at the Jorhat hospital as challenging and enriching, perhaps the crowning achievement of his long career in medicine. He was proud of the quality of medical and surgical care he and his colleagues at the small hospital were able to provide for the 100,000 patients admitted in his time there, over 33,000 of them for surgical or obstetrical procedures. He continued to remark, with gratitude, at how the hospital has continued to flourish in the years since he and Sally left India.

His medical career took a different, but equally satisfying, path in 1981, when he was named a visiting associate professor of surgery at the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry and then associate general surgeon until 1993. He was clinical assistant professor of environmental medicine at the University of Rochester Medical Center from 1993 until his retirement in 2000 and was the clinical director of the Occupational and Environmental Medicine Program from 1990 to 1994.

Throughout his life, Ken remained a staunch liberal Baptist, and when he and Sally settled in Rochester, they joined the First Baptist Church, where he had been a student minister during his time at CRCDS. His church community was a vital part of his life, and at various times he served as moderator (helping to establish First Baptist as a Welcoming and Affirming Church), on the Board of Deacons, and on the Board of Christian Education, faithfully attending services right up until his death. He also served as president of the Executive Board and on the Ordination Council of American Baptist Churches of the Rochester/Genesee Region and as president of the Board of the Samaritan Pastoral Counseling Center.

His wife, Sally, died March 6, 2017. He is predeceased by his brothers, Stanley Dodgson and Wilfred Dodgson, and a son-in-law, Chris Cleary. He is survived by his sister, Lucille (John) Mayo of Sarasota, FL; his daughters, Kim (Marc) Labinger of Los Angeles, CA, Kathryn Dodgson of Arlington, MA, and Carol (Dale) Klooster of St. Louis, MO; five grandchildren, Cooper (Brittany) Labinger, Eli Labinger (Miriam Arellano), Jeremy Lyon Taylor (Alice Johnson), Alison Klooster (Michael Harrigan), and Anya Klooster (David Fleming); and two great-granddaughters, Chloe Harrigan and Isla Klooster-Fleming.

