



**Service of Worship for the Glory of God
and in
Celebration of the Life of
Mary Boomhower**

**Houghton Wesleyan Church
Houghton, New York
November 13, 2021
11:00 a.m.**

Call to Worship

“Don’t let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust also in me.

There is more than enough room in my Father’s home. If this were not so, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you?

When everything is ready, I will come and get you, so that you will always be with me where I am. And you know the way to where I am going.”

“No, we don’t know, Lord,” Thomas said. “We have no idea where you are going, so how can we know the way?”

Jesus told him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me.”

I am telling you these things now while I am still with you.

But when the Father sends the Advocate as my representative—that is, the Holy Spirit—he will teach you everything and will remind you of everything I have told you.

I am leaving you with a gift—peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So don’t be troubled or afraid.”

Prelude Mary's *selected hymns* Judy Congdon, Organ

Call to Worship

Prayer

Hymn of Comfort 370 *Come Ye Disconsolate*

Words of Remembrance

Gudy Stevenson

Daryl Stevenson

Special Music *I Bowed on My Knees and Cried Holy* Happy Goodmans

Words of Remembrance

Tim Boomhower, nephew

Congregation

Special Music *Reflection of a Servant's Life* Jen Ross, Mary's caregiver

Scripture Reading *Psalms 46*

Hymn of Testimony 65 *This Is My Father's World*

Homily Pastor Wesley Oden

Hymn of Exhortation 455 *Be Still My Soul Before Thy God*

Benediction

Postlude *Toccata from Symphony No. 5* Charles-Marie Widor

MARY ADELL BOOMHOWER

Mary Adell Boomhower, 89, died peacefully at Wyoming County Community Hospital in Warsaw, NY on Thursday morning, October 28, following a brief illness.

Mary was the youngest of four children born to Raymond and Edna (Clark) Boomhower, in Catskill, NY. Her three older brothers, Edmund, and twins, Arthur and Albert “Don” Boomhower, predeceased her, as did her parents. She is survived by sisters-in-law, Marion Boomhower of Los Angeles, and Phyllis Boomhower of Catskill, and by her nephew, Timothy (Melody) Boomhower of Efland, North Carolina. She leaves several grand-nieces and nephews.

Mary graduated from SUNY Cobleskill with an AA degree in nutrition and worked for the Houghton College food service for the first 25 years, beginning in 1952. In the late ‘70s, Mary was offered the opportunity to retool and become part of the administrative support staff as a secretary/administrative assistant to several academic departments. With trepidation, she followed that path and flourished.

She was a loved, respected, and valued member of the college support staff where she served for 45 years, retiring in 1997. In 1998, President Chamberlain established the Mary Boomhower Staff Excellence Award, given annually to others who showed Mary’s strong work ethic, integrity, willing and loyal spirit, and dedication to serving others.

She loved domestic and wild birds and always had a parakeet to keep her company as a lifelong single person. She was known for her exceptional and intricate needlework wall art, Christmas batches of home-made peanut brittle, and commitment to her women’s Bible study and Monday prayer groups.

She was a devoted parishioner at Houghton Wesleyan Church and continued her lifelong support of her home church, the Full Life [Wesleyan] Church in Catskill. Mary touched many lives in the community by her humble, gracious, and kind way of living and loving those in her orbit. Her friends call her Blessed for the godly, selfless, disciplined, and faithful example she has modeled for us.

She was interred next to her parents in the Catskill Town Cemetery.

Arrangements were made by the Kopler-Williams Funeral Home, Fillmore, NY. Online memorials may be offered and viewed at koplerwilliamsfuneralhome.com.