

Service of Worship Celebrating the Life of
John Daniel Miller
August 15, 1930—October 10, 2022



“I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.”

2 Timothy 4: 7,8 (NIV)

Prelude

Words of Greeting and Prayer

Song: '*Midst the Darkness, Storm and Sorrow* (back page)

Scripture 2 Corinthians 4:16 - 5:5

Tributes from Friends and Colleagues

Song: *Home Where I Belong* Steve Paine

Video Tributes from Immediate Family

Scripture and *Praying Like Paul*

Video Tributes from Extended Family

Homily

Song: *To God be the Glory*

Benediction

Postlude: *For All the Saints*

Organist: Judy Congdon
Officiant: Rev. Wesley Oden

Immediately following this service, a brief committal service will be held at the Mt. Pleasant Cemetery here in Houghton. Immediately following the committal, you are invited to join the family for lunch in the church Community Room.

John Daniel Miller

August 15, 1930—October 10, 2022

John was born the seventh son into a family that would eventually have thirteen children, eleven of them boys. The Miller family attended church regularly, but John came to put his faith in Jesus as his Savior when he was a teenager and was required to attend an evangelical church in order to play on their baseball team. He took his newfound faith seriously, and found it a stretching experience when he was drafted into the army after high school. Even though he was hassled for reading his Bible and living in a way pleasing to the Lord, he persisted and grew stronger in his spiritual maturity.

After serving in the army, the GI Bill allowed John to enroll at Houghton College, where two significant things happened. He heard about an organization whose goal was to make God's Word available to speakers of all the world's languages, Wycliffe Bible Translators. Since he loved the Bible and found it so important in his own discipleship, John felt that this would be a worthwhile way to invest his life. He also met his future wife, Carolyn, when he roomed at the Paine house.

John joined Wycliffe and was assigned to Vietnam. When Carolyn had graduated from college and joined him, they were married in Saigon in 1961 and went to live among the Bru people, to learn their language, create an alphabet for writing it, teach people to read, and eventually translate the Bible. The years in Vietnam were tumultuous because of the war, but they were also very productive. The work went well, deep relationships were established with the Bru people, and four children joined the Miller family.

In 1975 John and Carolyn, along with their youngest child, LuAnne, were captured by the North Vietnamese army as the government of South Vietnam was finally toppled. They spent eight months as "guests of the revolution," being moved from prison camp to prison camp through the jungles of South Vietnam up to the North. Through this difficult time, John was able to keep his Bible with him and found continual encouragement through God's promises in his Word.

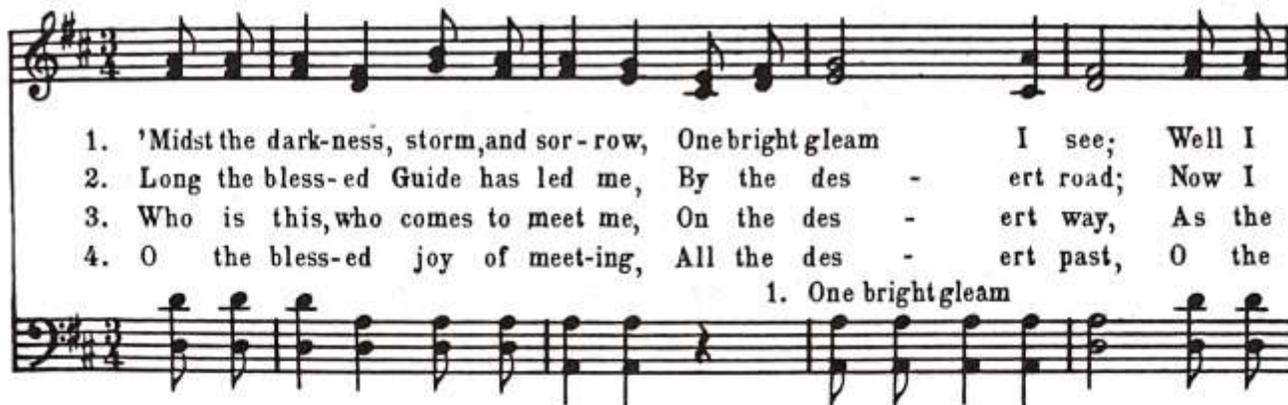
After their release and the completion of the Bru New Testament, the Millers went on to serve as translation advisors for the Kadazan people of Malaysia, on the island of Borneo. They lived for a while in Laos, as language surveyors, and in Thailand, as administrators for the team of people doing Bible translation and language development work in five countries. Many years after the Bru New Testament was finished, they circled back and helped to finish the Bru Old Testament, while living in Thailand.

After retiring to Houghton in 2017, John continued to rejoice in the Lord's blessings and presence in his life. He prayed fervently for each of his kids and grandkids, and for his friends in Southeast Asia, many of whom were facing persecution for their faith. He was deeply grateful for the way the Lord had allowed him to be a part of His work in the world.

'Midst The Darkness, Storm, And Sorrow

GERHARD TERSTEEGEN

CLARA H. SCOTT



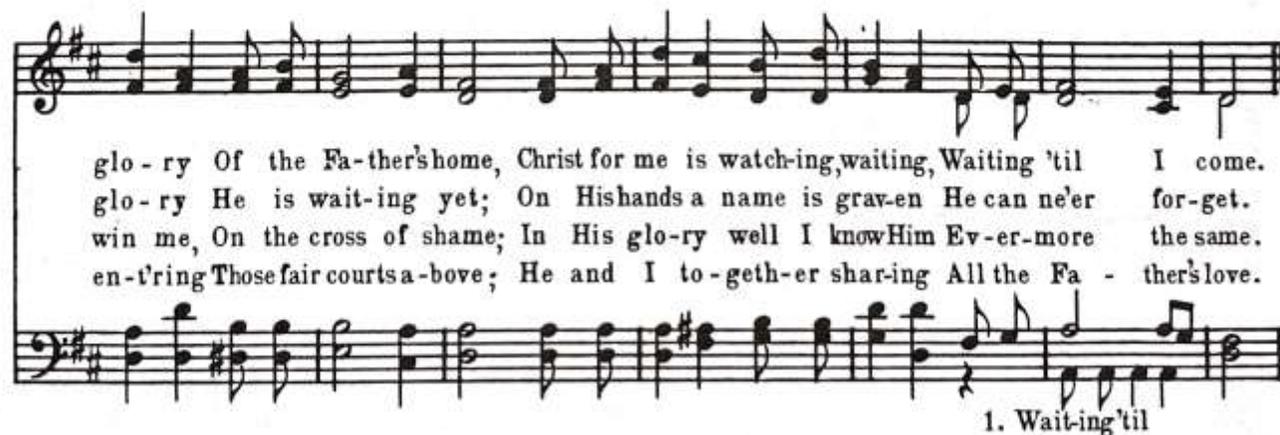
1. 'Midst the dark-ness, storm, and sor - row, One bright gleam I see; Well I
 2. Long the bless-ed Guide has led me, By the des - ert road; Now I
 3. Who is this, who comes to meet me, On the des - ert way, As the
 4. O the bless-ed joy of meet-ing, All the des - ert past, O the

1. One bright gleam



know the bless-ed mor-row Christ will come for me. 'Midst the light, and peace, and
 see the gold-en tow-ers, Cit - y of my God. There a-midst the love and
 Morn-ing Star fore-tell-ing God's un-cloud - ed day? He it is Who came to
 won-drous words of greet-ing He shall speak at last! He and I to-geth-er

1. Christ will come



glo - ry Of the Fa-ther's home, Christ for me is watch-ing, waiting, Waiting 'til I come.
 glo - ry He is wait-ing yet; On His hands a name is grav-en He can ne'er for-get.
 win me, On the cross of shame; In His glo-ry well I know Him Ev-er-more the same.
 en-tring Those fair courts a-bove; He and I to-geth-er shar-ing All the Fa - ther's love.

1. Wait-ing'til

5 Where no shade nor stain can enter,
 Nor the gold be dim,
 In that holiness unsullied,
 I shall walk with Him.
 Meet companion then for Jesus,
 From Him, for Him, made—
 Glory of God's grace for ever
 There in me displayed.

6 He who in His hour of sorrow
 Bore the curse alone;
 I who through the lonely desert
 Trod where He had gone;
 He and I, in that bright glory,
 One deep joy shall share—
 Mine, to be for ever with Him;
 His, that I am there.