

**A  
SERVICE  
OF  
DEATH AND RESURRECTION  
FOR  
WALTER GEORGE McIVER**

**February 18, 1913 – April 17, 2003**

**April 27, 2003**

**4:00 p.m.**

**Clarke Chapel, Lycoming College  
Williamsport, Pennsylvania**

Revered by family, colleagues, and hundreds upon hundreds of former members of his choirs, Walter George McIver leaves a musical and spiritual legacy matched by few in the arena of liberal arts' education. Serving the students, faculty, and administration of this venerable institution for thirty years, Walter offered exceptional teaching, conducting, counseling and mentoring gifts to so many. Even after his retirement of almost 27 years, his name still calls forth great affirmation and enthusiasm. Today we honor one who was well grounded in his faith in Jesus Christ, and who sought throughout his life to remain faithful to His Master's high calling. Walter's example will be part of the academic and communal ethos of this campus for many decades to come. It is most appropriate that we celebrate his passing with this Service of Death and Resurrection.

*Prayer: Grant us, Gracious Lord, the benefits of knowing Walter,  
that they remain an indelible memory for our encouragement  
to be faithful in your worship and service. Amen.*

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**GATHERING**

**Voluntaries**

*Fair in Faith*  
**Lycoming Choir**

**Selected**  
**Healey Willan**

**\*The Word of Grace**

**\*Greeting**

**\*Prayer for the Day**

The Lord be with you. And also with you. Let us pray.

**Eternal God,**

**We praise you for the great company of all those  
who have finished their course in faith  
and now rest from their labor.**

**We praise you for those dear to us  
whom we name in our hearts before you.**

**Especially we praise you for Walter,  
whom you have graciously received into your presence.**

**To all of these, grant your peace.**

**Let perpetual light shine upon them;  
and help us to believe where we have not seen,  
that your presence may lead us through our years,  
and bring us at last with them into the joy of your home;  
not made with hands but eternal in the heavens  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE**

**The Old Testament Lessons**

**Anthem**

*Canticle of Praise*

**Psalm 103:1-5**

John Ness Beck

**Psalm 51:10-12**

John K. Paine

**Psalm 23**

**Anthem**

*Dona Nobis Pacem from Mass in D*

**The New Testament Lessons**

**Solo**

*The Love of Christ*

Robert H. McIver, Jr.

**Ephesians 4:31-32 – 5:1-2**

**II Corinthians 5:1-4**

Robert H. McIver

**\*The Gospel Lesson**

**Liturgist:** The Gospel of our Lord.

**People:** Praise be to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

**St. John 14:1-4, 18-19, 25-27**

**\*Hymn**

*What Wondrous Love Is This*

**292**

**Homily**

*Rise Up, O Flame...Show to Us Beauty*

Walter G. Edmonds

## COMMENDATION

**\*Prayers**

**\*Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**\*The Lord's Prayer** *(The congregation joining hands)*

**\*Hymn** *Be Thou My Vision* **451**

**\*Dismissal with Blessing**

**\*Choral Response** *The Lord Bless You and Keep You* **Peter Lutkin**

Conducted by John Shannon, Lycoming 1968

*(All current and former choir members are invited to sing with the choir.)*

**\*Voluntary**

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### Participants

<b>Pastor:</b>	Walter G. Edmonds, Lycoming 1967
<b>Lectors:</b>	Matthew McIver; Dr. James E. Douthat
<b>Director of the Choir:</b>	Dr. Fred Thayer
<b>Organist:</b>	Richard Lakey
<b>Choir:</b>	Lycoming Tour Choir
<b>Trumpeter:</b>	Jonathan McIver

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*Lillian, Kay, Bill, Bob and their families thank you for attending this memorial service this afternoon. They rejoice that Walter's presence and influence are remembered so deeply in the hearts of those gathered, and those scattered across this nation. May his profound love of others and his pursuit of "beauty, vision and joy," continue to inspire us forever.*

## WALTER GEORGE McIVER

February 18, 1913 – April 17, 2003

Walter George McIver, ninety, of Rochester, New York, died Holy Thursday, April 17, at Rochester General Hospital, surrounded by his beloved family. Mr. McIver was born and reared in Cleveland, Ohio, the fourth of four children of Jean and William McIver. After graduating as student council president of Collinwood High School, he attended Westminster Choir College in Princeton, New Jersey. While there he met and married Beulah Newman of Portsmouth, Ohio. They were married sixty-three years, until her death in 1999.

After graduating with Bachelors of Music degrees from Westminster, the McIvers moved to Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Walter headed the music program at Market Square Presbyterian Church and founded the Harrisburg Symphony Choir. In 1940 their first child, Ann Mc Kay (Kay) was born.

The family moved to Williamsport, Pennsylvania in 1942, where Walter directed the music program at Covenant Central Presbyterian Church. He soon founded the Williamsport Civic Choir. Four years later Walter began teaching at Lycoming College. Teaching for thirty years, Walter initiated The Lycoming Choir, which continues its fine musical tradition presently under Walter's successor, Dr. Fred Thayer. During his tenure Walter successfully pursued a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Music from Bucknell University and a Master of Arts degree in Music from New York University, completed in 1955. Walter toured with Lycoming Choir across the United States yearly, and visited England twice in his career. Walter was also chosen to tour with a State Department-sponsored choir to Africa in 1959.

In 1942 William Walter was born to the McIvers; in 1948, Robert Hugh. Currently both sons teach at Eastman School of Music, Rochester, New York, as professors of voice. Kay, their older sister, is a retired bank officer.

After retirement in 1976 Beulah and Walter worked as volunteers in mission for the Presbyterian Church, serving children's homes in Nashville, Tennessee and Banner Elk, North Carolina. Eventually they settled in Salisbury, North Carolina.

After Beulah's death, Walter married Lillian Smith of Salisbury in 2001. Moving to Rochester, New York, they resided in the Chapel Oaks Retirement Community, a facility near Bill, Bob and the grandchildren.

Walter is survived by his widow Lillian; his three children and their spouses: Ann (Kay) McKay McIver Reilly, William and Dana McIver, Robert and Karen McIver; eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.