Celebrating The Life

Daniel Angelo Frank

Sunrise: May 31, 1932

Sunset: May 8, 2021

SERVICE: SATURDAY, JUNE 5, 2021- 9:30 AM

# **UNION UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

2095 Berwyn Street • Union, NJ 07083 "Well done, good and faithful servant." Matthew 25 : 21 Officiant, Reverend James Ryoo

#### Prelude - Ave Maria

### Organist

### Pastoral Greetings and Opening Prayer Rev. James Ryoo

Friends, we have gathered here to praise God

and to witness to our faith as we celebrate the life of Daniel Angelo Frank. We come together in grief, acknowledging our human loss. May God grant us grace, that in pain we may find comfort, in sorrow hope, in death resurrection.

Hymn of Faith - "When We All Get To Heaven"

#### **Responsive Reading Prayer**

Pastor: O God, who gave us birth, we ask for your comforting presence to manifest in this place.

People: That in pain, we may find comfort, in sorrow hope, and in uncertainty we may put our faith in Christ.

Pastor: Give to us now your grace, that as we shrink before the mystery of death, we may see the light of eternity.

People: We thank you for the gift of joy in days of health and strength, and for the gifts of your abiding presence and promise in days of pain and grief.

Pastor: We thank you for Jesus, who knew our griefs, who died our death and rose for our sake.

People: Speak to us once more your solemn message of life.

Pastor: Help us to live as those who are prepared to die. And when our days here are accomplished, enable us to die as those who go forth to live,

ALL: So that living or dying, our life may be in you, and that nothing in life or in death will be able to separate us from your great love in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Lamentations 3:19-32 - Read by Beverley Meeson

19Remember my misery (and my homelessness, the wormwood and [h]bitterness.) 20My soul certainly remembers, And [i]is bent over within me.

211 recall this to my mind, Therefore I [j]wait. 22[k]The LORD'S acts of mercy indeed do not end, For His compassions do not fail. 23They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness. 24" The LORD is my portion," says my soul, "Therefore I [1] wait for Him." 25The LORD is good to those who [m]await Him, To the [n]person who seeks Him. 26It is good that he waits silently For the salvation of the LORD. 27It is good for a man to bear The yoke in his youth. 28Let him sit alone and keep quiet, Since He has laid it on him. 29Let him [o]put his mouth in the dust; Perhaps there is hope. 30Let him give his cheek to the one who is going to strike him; Let him be filled with shame. 31For the Lord will not reject forever, 32For if He causes grief, Then He will have compassion In proportion to His abundant mercy.

#### Hymn, "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

'God's Faithfulness' by Deborah Ann - Read by Sandra Rodin



#### The Obituaryof Daniel Angelo Frank Read by Camille Blake & Monica Mills

On May 31, 1932 Daniel Angelo Frank was born in the Commonwealth of Dominica in the British West Indies to his loving mother May O 'Brien and his father Joseph Frank who had been the head of the fire brigade. One of a kind does not even begin to describe Danny's spirit and energy. He was the youngest of four children, Dennis and Ferdie being his close older brothers, role models, and mentors along with his loving sister Sylma. The siblings had an unbreakable bond that shone through their unique and captivating personalities. Much to the ire of his mother, Danny spent his days in Dominica as an extremely competitive sportsman. In Dominica, cricket and soccer were his favorite pastimes, he also ran track for his school and participated in obstacle races. Danny's determination and drive were prevalent right from the offset. He diligently wrote letters to his aunt, pleading for her support so that he could leave Dominica. When he was fourteen years old Danny was finally able to leave to go to school in Barbados.

Once in Barbados Danny ensured that he would make the most of the opportunity afforded to him and showed his gratitude by working as a garden boy to pay back his aunt. One day while Danny was working in the garden, a man walked past, saw Danny's ability and determination in the garden, and offered him a job as a bellhop at the local hotel. When they arrived at the hotel however, the manager said that she only needed someone to wash the pots. So, tenacious as ever, Danny washed the pots so well that the manager soon promoted him to washing the plates, then again to washing the glasses, and then to making salads, so that finally, by the time Danny left Barbados he was the assistant manager second only to the manager herself. Later in life, he was always adamant about doing the dishes at home. Perhaps he was looking for another promotion from Sylvia.

In 1955, Danny emigrated to England with one of his brothers where a part of his heart would always remain. Despite his move Danny brought and flew the Dominican flag proudly around his new home. He also embraced his love of soca music, claiming to aide in the orchestration and development of the world-famous Notting Hill Carnival. While in England Danny attended Hammersmith College and worked at a coffee shop for a few months. He later got a job doing electrical mechanics and after a time worked as a postman importantly delivering Queen Elizabeth II's mail to Buckingham palace. While working as a postman Danny met the love of his life Sylvia Delsena Vaz, nee Goodall. Initially a friendship, Danny and Sylvia often had lunch together. As their friendship grew stronger so did their love, a love so picturesque it is a story such as those in epic romance movies and novels. Danny and Sylvia then made the decision to move to America to be with Sylvia's mother. In July of 1972, Danny migrated to the United States of America, following Sylvia who had made the journey one month prior. Danny and Sylvia married in New York City in the summer of 1976 and truly began a fantastic life together.

While in the states Danny started working as a machine operator at Industrial Processing Engineering in Newark, NJ. After an accident that injured his dominant hand Danny began an office job at the same location and began going to physical therapy for his injury at Kessler Rehabilitation Center in West Orange, NJ. For most people, an accident like that would have been depleting but Danny persevered. He found the silver lining in his situation and enjoyed his experience as a patient at Kessler so much that in 1979 he decided to work there full time for \$100 dollars less per week than he was making at his prior office job. Danny often told stories of this transition in his life, describing it as an amazing opportunity. He claimed that working at Kessler was one of the best things he did in life because he loved helping people and was happy to see them find health and success. His work at Kessler deepened his faith, enabled him to witness transformation, and afforded him the opportunity help others overcome their disabilities and surpass their goals. In his resignation letter to Kessler Institute for Rehabilitation he wrote, "I may be retiring my body but never my spirit." In 2000, after dedicating twenty-one years to the service and health of others at Kessler, Danny retired and continued to aide communities in need by getting even more involved with his church.

Danny and Sylvia were prominent members of Calvary-Roseville United Methodist Church in East Orange, NJ throughout their many years in the United States. They were one of the first Black couples of Calvary when they came in 1972 and they were instrumental in forming and organizing many programs to assist the church community and the youth. As Vice President of the Board of Trustees, Danny played an important role in the church community. He was a member of the Work Era on Evangelism, Finance and Building Committees, and Administrative Council. He was the President of the United Methodist Men, and a former Lay Director of the Walk to Emmaus. As part of the church community outreach, Danny regularly visited the sick at local hospitals and homes, and served meals to those in need on Thanksgiving and other holidays. Danny became so much a staple in the Calvary-Roseville congregation that his image was beautifully etched into one of the church's stained-glass windows.

In his life Danny was also a Volunteer Counselor for Essex County Youth Services. He was elected to the United Methodist Church Board of Directors in 2002 and had been a leader, fund-raiser, financial supporter, and friend of The Homes for many years. Danny was also actively involved in the construction of Bishop Taylor Manner, the first affordable, urban senior residence built by The Homes in partnership with Christ Episcopal Church and Calvary-Roseville UMC, its adjunct neighbor. A member of Burnet-Walnut Corporation, the Bishop Taylor Manor Board of Directors, Danny also served as President of its service auxiliary working closely with the Resident Council, assisting with activities such as Christmas parties, bazaars and walkathons, the proceeds from which were donated to the Fellowship Fund.

Due to his amazing service to his communities Danny was the recipient of numerous awards during his lifetime. Awards gifted to him by various churches and local communities for his dedication and leadership include The Outstanding Service Award (1989) The Layperson of the Year Award (1997) The Leadership Award - Calvary-Roseville (2002) and The Dedicated Award - Calvary-Roseville (2004) among others.

Danny and his wife Sylvia were travel enthusiast who enjoyed visiting family and friends around the world. Closer to home, Danny relaxed by playing dominos. He was a strong man, a cancer survivor who, years ago, underwent brain surgery. Danny was passionate about helping others, especially those in his church and community and was known for his loving and caring nature.

"Uncle Danny" to most he had a humorous personality and infectious laughter. It is often said that good things can come in small packages, and truly, many were able to hear Danny's boisterous voice before they even saw him. He certainly had a unique way of getting through to people because of his passion for giving advice and guidance to anyone in need. With Danny around no one remained a stranger for long. Going anywhere with him was an adventure as he had a penchant for making friends wherever he went. Anytime he came across a new face he'd quickly have their full name, life story, advice to give, and an invitation to dinner or stay at "Hotel Frank". Danny was well known for his charm and love of ladies, a love his beautiful wife Sylvia saw the humor in. She'd often say to him, "Dan, you're so crazy!" he'd always reply, "Crazy about you!" Always at the center of the dance floor Danny was the life and soul of every party he attended. Known for doing the electric slide and for his famous corn casserole he certainly knew how to bring people together all the while making sure they felt welcomed and loved.

When asked about his loving nature and giving spirit he once said, "People sometimes ask why I don't slow down. I reply, "it's because God has saved me for a purpose.' I tell them, 'Let me do God's work.""

Danny will surely be dancing again as he is now reunited with his beloved Sylvia and eldest son John. Danny leaves behind a wonderful family. He leaves five beautiful daughters Claudette Blake, Loraine Smart-Armstrong, Sandra Rodin, Beverley Meeson, and Jennifer Bayne along with one loving son Robert (Bobby) Clarke. He leaves several grandchildren, great grandchildren, friends, and "honorary" family members. Daniel (Danny) Angelo Frank is at peace and remains in our hearts in memory and spirit. We will love and cherish him always, forever thankful that we were graced by his light and the joy of his presence.

# Special Music:"How Great Thou Art" - Sung by Gregory Sanders

#### **Scripture Readings:**

Psalm 23, Read by Patient Harris

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

3 He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

# John 14:1-4, Read by Robert Clarke

14 "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. 2 My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. 4 You know the way to the place where I am going."

# John 14:18-19, Read by Darren Blake

14 18 I will not leave you comfortless; I will come to you.19 "Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more; but ye see: because I live, ye shall live also.

# John 14: 25-27, Read by Charlotte Goodall

14 25 These things have I spoken unto you, being yet present with you. 26 But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you. 27 Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

# 'Do Not Go Gentle Into That Good Night' by Dylan Thomas - Read by Monica Mills

The Eulogy Rev.Keith Rae

Words of Remembrance from Family and Friends

Commendation

Closing Hymn - "It Is Well With My Soul"

**Benediction Rev. Keith Rae** 

Recessional

I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me, even if he dies, will live. -- (John 11:25)

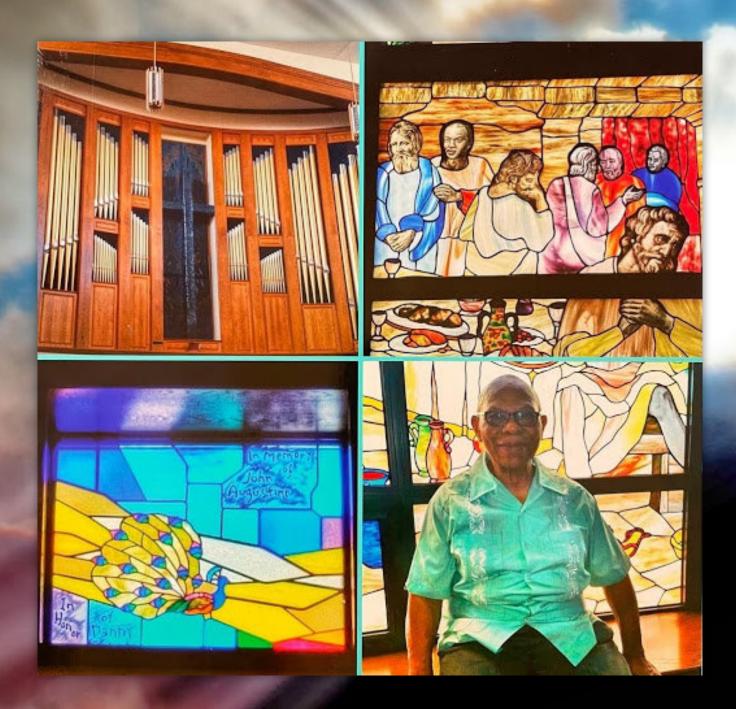
# Hymn "Amazing Grace"

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#### **Pallbearers:**

Camille Blake Karen Barch Vanessa Newman Samantha Newman-Webster Charlotte Goodall Jodikay Armstrong Julie Adaramaja Therese "Angie" Goodall



Acknowledgement The family of Daniel Angelo Frank will remember and cherish your many expressions of love, sympathy and prayers so graciously extended. Thank you and may God Bless you.

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