

Daily Devotion for September 17, 2022

“Jesus wept”. John 11:35

Yesterday I “officiated” a memorial service via zoom for Haruka “Hark” Hattori. The family is one that I have known since I started my ministry at Christ Presbyterian Church in 1989, in fact the husband of the woman who passed away was the very first funeral service that I conducted.

Last month I was contacted by Hark’s daughter Susan asking if I could do the video service. Since the family had just moved to Vancouver Canada and didn’t have a church that knew the family I agreed to officiate.

Although Hark was just a few days short of her 100th birthday, it has left a tremendous void in Susan’s life. I know that there have been many tears that have shed as she has mourned and grieved her mother.

In John 11:35 we are told that, **“Jesus wept.”** Our Lord was moved with compassion when He saw the anguish on the faces of Mary and Martha as they mourned the death of their brother Lazarus. I’m sure that our Lord weeps today for the death of Queen Elizabeth II and the loss of life by sickness, war, disease, crime, etc. Paul said in Romans 12:15, “weep with those who weep.”

Thought For Today: Have you become numb to the rising number of deaths that we hear and read in the news? What does it mean that **Jesus wept?**

Today’s Prayer Focus: Lest we become hardened by current news on TV, take time today to pray for those who have lost loved ones and continue to mourn. Continue to pray for our church family in need of God’s healing touch, Nancy Ichiuji, Yuri Wong, Tom Gunter, Alan Durant, Bob McIntyre and Pat Wong. Deo Volente.