

The LORD is my *Shepherd*;
I shall not want.
He maketh me
lie down in green pastures:
He leadeth me beside the still waters,
He restoreth my
soul:

He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness
for His name's sake. 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.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies
Thou anointest my head with oil; My cup runneth over
Surely goodness & mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life;

And I will dwell in the house
of the LORD *forever*.
- Psalm 23



*Celebrating the Life of
Elsie Marilyn Gilbertson*

Born to August Keller & Louise (Klundt) Keller

September 28, 1933 - Beulah, North Dakota

Entered the Gates of Heaven

November 15, 2025 - Bismarck, North Dakota

Funeral Services

Thursday, November 20, 2025 - 2:00 PM

Keene First Lutheran Church

Keene, North Dakota

-Light Refreshments to Follow Service-

Officiating

Pastor Peder Stenslie

Sharing of Special Memories

Brian Bitner Matthew Nygaard

Readers

Pastor Pauline Crowder

Pastor John Streccius

Musician

Michelle Swenson

Music

"Shall We Gather at the River"

"I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"

When Peace like a River"

"What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine"

Pallbearers

Brian Bitner Craig Bitner

Clarck Bohmbach Bridaer Bohmbach

Roger Brenna Nathan Brenna David Brenna

Honorary Bearers

Karly Brennan Kate Montero-Ray Elaine Koch

Veronica Erhardt Peggy Howell Erin Wagar

Alaina Hanson Melanie Mott

Final Resting Place

Good Hope Cemetery - Keene, North Dakota

Arrangements By

Fulkerson Stevenson Funeral Home

Watford City, North Dakota

In Loving
M E M O R Y



Elsie Marilyn Gilbertson

September 28, 1933 - November 15, 2025

Elsie M Gilbertson, 92, formerly of Charlson, North Dakota passed away peacefully on Saturday, November 15, 2025 at her residence in Bismarck, North Dakota. She was born on September 28, 1933 to parents August and Louise Keller at their family farm a few miles north of Beulah, ND in Mercer County.

Elsie's education began in a one room rural elementary school that consisted of grades 1-8. After the 8th grade she went to a town school in Beulah that she didn't favor and dropped out for a while before returning back to elementary school for another year, and then moved onto Beulah High School. There she decided that school was not so bad, earned her diploma, and enrolled in college at what was then known as The North Dakota Agricultural School—better known now as NDSU, where she earned her bachelor's degree in home economics.



She then began a career in teaching high school in New Salem, ND, where she taught students the finer aspects of home economics. She taught in New Salem for several years before expanding her horizons and accepted a position as the home economics teacher in Cordova, Alaska, a small, isolated town that was only accessible by airplane. She taught there only one year and came back to teach at Beulah High School for another several years.

Elsie's next career move after leaving teaching was to move to Williston, ND and becoming a Williams County Home Extension Agent. Soon after this new adventure is when she met Lee Gilbertson and he quickly asked for her hand in marriage. They were married at Zion Lutheran Church in Beulah, ND, and started their new, beautiful life together on a farm near Charlson, ND in McKenzie County. While Lee operated the farm, she enjoyed typical farm wife life helping with the chores, cooking meals, delivering meals to the fields, maintaining the farm yard, and growing flowers that she cherished dearly.

In addition to her farm life, Elsie was an active member of Keene First Lutheran Church where she served in various capacities from music to church council, and was also active and well known throughout the Western Synod of The Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA). Elsie was a very kind, giving, supportive, welcoming, and generous philanthropist. When generosity and kindness was required, she was among the first to respond.

Elsie is survived by her sister Irma of Bismarck and many cousins, nephews, and nieces. She was preceded in death by her husband Leland and her parents.

