

“By God’s great mercy God has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven . . .” -1 Peter 1:3-4



A worship service to the glory of God and in loving memory of

Leslie Eugene Anderson

May 17, 1931 – June 6, 2025

The Rite of Christian Funeral and Commendation of the Casket with The Liturgy of Holy Communion

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit, the comforter, gathers us in worship.

Organ Preludes

Introduction, Welcome, and Invocation

The ministers may meet the coffin and the bereaved at the entrance to the church. The assembly stands and faces them.

Welcome in the name of Jesus,
the Savior of the world.
We are gathered here to worship,
to proclaim Christ crucified and risen,
to remember before God our brother in the faith, Les Anderson,
to give thanks for his life,
to commend him to our merciful Redeemer,
and to comfort one another in our grief and loss.

God is the source of all mercy
and the God of all consolation. God comforts us in all our sorrows
so that we can comfort others in their sorrows
with the same consolation we ourselves have received from our loving God.

Thanksgiving for Baptism

A thanksgiving for baptism may follow. As a sign of being clothed with Christ in baptism, a pall is placed on the coffin by family members, pallbearers, or other assisting ministers. The minister or a representative of the congregation may say:

Les Anderson was a baptized Child of God. St. Paul writes this Promise over us in Romans 6.

*“When we were baptized in Christ Jesus,
we were baptized into his death.*

*We were buried therefore with him
by baptism into death,
so that as Christ was raised from the dead
by the glory of the Father,
we too might live a new life.*

*For if we have been united with him in a death like his,
we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.”*

All who are baptized into Christ have put on Christ.
 In *his* baptism, Les was clothed with Christ.
 In the day of Christ's coming,
 He shall be clothed with glory.

Jesus Christ, the resurrection and the life, you suffered death for all humanity, you rose from the grave to open the way to eternal life, we praise you.

We praise you.

Holy Spirit, author and giver of life, the comforter of all who sorrow, our sure confidence and everlasting hope, we worship you.

We worship you.

To you, O God, blessed Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be all glory and honor, forever and ever.
Amen.

Hymn ELW 618

Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer



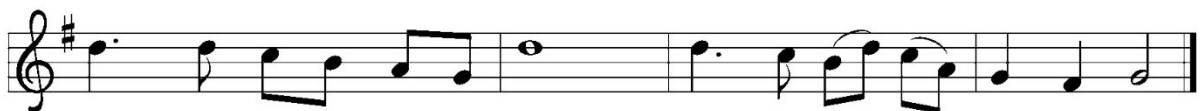
1 Guide me ev - er, great Re - deem-er, pil - grim through this
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun-tain where the heal - ing
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious



bar - ren land. I am weak, but you are might - y; hold me
 wa - ters flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me
 fears sub - side; death of death and hell's de - struc - tion, land me



with your pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
 all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer, strong de - liv - 'rer,
 safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs and prais - es, songs and prais - es



feed me now and ev - er - more, feed me now and ev - er - more.
 shield me with your might-y arm, shield me with your might-y arm.
 I will raise for - ev - er - more, I will raise for - ev - er - more.

Text: William Williams, 1717–1791; tr. William Williams and Peter Williams, 1722–1796, alt.
 Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873–1932

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Prayer

O God of grace and glory,
we remember before you today our brother, Les Anderson.

We thank you for giving *him* to us to know and to love
as a companion in our pilgrimage on earth.

In your boundless compassion, console us who mourn.

Give us faith to see that death has been swallowed up

in the Easter victory of our Lord Jesus Christ,

so that we may live in Les' confidence, faith, and hope until, by your call,

we are gathered to our heavenly home in the company of all your saints;

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The Obituary is read

Remembrances / Stories follow

Hymn ELW 838

Beautiful Savior



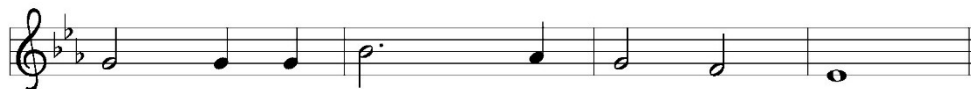
1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,
2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,
3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,
4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,



Son of God and Son of Man!
robed in flow'rs of bloom - ing spring;
bright the spar - kling stars on high;
Son of God and Son of Man!



Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,
Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,
Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er
Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,



light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.
than all the an - gels in the sky.
now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

Text: *Gesangbuch*, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904
Music: SCHÖNSTER HERR JESU, Silesian folk tune, 19th cent.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah . . .

Isaiah 25:6-9

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

⁶On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

⁷And he will destroy on this mountain
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the covering that is spread over all nations;

⁸ he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces,
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the Lord has spoken.

⁹It will be said on that day,
“See, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.
This is the Lord for whom we have waited;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.”

A Reading from Psalm 103 . . . *(read in dialogue, NRSVUE, or shared as one Reading. Listen for an announcement as to how we read today’s Psalmody.)*

¹Bless the Lord, O my soul,
**and all that is within me,
bless God’s holy name.**

²Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and do not forget all God’s benefits—

³God forgives all your iniquity,
heals all your diseases,

⁴redeems your life from the Pit,
crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,

⁵and satisfies you with good as long as you live
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle’s.

⁶The Lord works vindication
and justice for all who are oppressed.

⁷The Lord made known his ways to Moses,
God’s acts to the people of Israel.

⁸The Lord is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

⁹God will not always accuse,
nor will he keep his anger forever.

¹⁰He does not deal with us according to our sins

nor repay us according to our iniquities.

¹¹ For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;

¹² **as far as the east is from the west,
so far God removes our transgressions from us.**

¹³ As a father has compassion for his children,
so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him.

¹⁴ **For God knows how we were made;
God remembers that we are dust.**

¹⁵ As for mortals, their days are like grass;
they flourish like a flower of the field;

¹⁶ **for the wind passes over it, and it is gone,
and its place knows it no more.**

¹⁷ But the steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting
**on those who fear the Lord,
and God's righteousness to the children's children,**

¹⁸ to those who keep his covenant
and remember to do his commandments.

¹⁹ The Lord has established his throne in the heavens,
and his kingdom rules over all.

²⁰ Bless the Lord, O you his angels,
**you mighty ones who do his bidding,
obedient to his spoken word.**

²¹ Bless the Lord, all his hosts,
his ministers who do his will.

²² Bless the Lord, all his works,
in all places of his dominion.

Bless the Lord, O my soul.

A Reading from the First Letter of Peter the Apostles to the scattered churches, chapter 3 . . . 1 Peter 1:3-9

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead ⁴ and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶ In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, ⁷ so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. ⁸ Although you have not seen him, you love him, and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, ⁹ for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Refrain

Then sings my soul, my Sav-ior God, to thee, how great thou
 art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Sav-ior God, to
 thee, how great thou art! How great thou art!

Text: Carl G. Boberg, 1859–1940; tr. and adapt. Stuart K. Hine, 1899–1989
 Music: O STORE GUD, Swedish folk tune; adapt. Stuart K. Hine
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APOSTLES' CREED

The Apostles' Creed may be spoken.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
 born of the virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried;
 he descended to the dead.*
 On the third day he rose again;
 he ascended into heaven,
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
 and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy catholic church,
 the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body,
 and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*Or, "he descended into hell," another translation of this text in widespread use.

Prayers of Intercession

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept.

Almighty God, in holy baptism you have knit your chosen people together into one communion of saints in the body of Christ.

Give to your whole church in heaven and on earth your light and your peace.

God of mercy,

hear our prayer.

Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to share the new life in Christ.

God of mercy,

hear our prayer.

Give courage and faith to all who mourn,
and a sure and certain hope in your loving care,
that, casting all their sorrow on you,
they may have strength for the days ahead.

God of mercy,

hear our prayer.

Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith,
that, where this world groans in grief and pain,
your Holy Spirit may lead us to bear witness to your light and life.

God of mercy,

hear our prayer.

Help us, in the midst of things we cannot understand,
to believe and trust in the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, and the resurrection to life everlasting.

God of mercy,

hear our prayer.

The presiding minister concludes the prayers.

God of all grace, we give you thanks because by his death our Savior Jesus Christ destroyed the power of death and by his resurrection he opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. Make us certain that because he lives we shall live also, and that neither death nor life, nor things present nor things to come, will be able to separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Peace

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

Christ's Meal

God gives us a foretaste of the feast to come. Everyone is welcome to receive Bread and Wine from Christ's Table

Great Thanksgiving Prayer

Dialogue

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The presiding minister continues:

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
who rose from the dead, and in whom our hope of resurrection dawns.
The sting of death has been removed by the glorious promise of his risen life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

(People, together)

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Thanksgiving at the Table

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.

You are most holy,

and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish
but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world
to fulfill for us your holy will
and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

(Before his death)

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

After his death he met the grieving pilgrim disciples on the Road to Emmaus. There he broke the bread with them and revealed himself to them as their wounded yet risen, living Lord.

Now, as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death and resurrection until he comes again.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup
we remember your Word dwelling among us,
full of grace and truth.
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.
We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Send your Holy Spirit, our advocate, comforter, defender, guide and Counselor
to fill the hearts of all who share this bread and cup.

Join our prayers and praise with your faithful believers of every age
that, rejoicing in the imperishable hope of the resurrection to eternal life,
we might live in hope and have your peace and joy.

Now

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

Invitation to Communion

This Meal is for you. All are welcome here! Friend and stranger. All are welcome at the banquet of the Savior! Come up the center aisle to the Pastor or Assisting Minister and receive the bread (wafer, or gluten small breads) into your open, flat palm/ hand, go left or right and receive/or take the cup of wine/ juice from the server. If you desire only a blessing, please do come and receive the sign of the Cross and a word of blessing and prayer. Cross your arms to indicate you are not communing but wish a simple blessing. Everyone, young and old is encouraged to share in this Holy Communion Meal. All Christians of every denomination are invited to share in this Holy Communion. Non-Christians are invited to receive the blessing of God the Creator.

Communion

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers says

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

and each person may respond

Amen. (or Thanks be to God!)

Spoken Dialogue After Communion (stand)

After all have returned to their places, the assembly stands.

Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace:

your word has been fulfilled.

My own eyes have seen the salvation

which you have prepared

in the sight of ev'ry people:

a light to reveal you to the nations

and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit

As it was, is now, and shall be forever, world without end. Amen.

Prayer after Communion

O God, our life, our strength, our food, we give you thanks for sustaining Les, his family, and us with the body and blood of your Son just as you sustained Les in his last weeks and days with the food for the journey home. By your Holy Spirit, enliven us to be Jesus' living body in the world, that more and more we will give you praise and serve you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Sending

God blesses us and sends us out in peace.

Commendation at the Casket

The ministers take their places at the coffin. The presiding minister leads the commendation.

Let us commend Leslie Anderson to the mercy of God, our maker and redeemer.
Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Leslie Eugene Anderson.
Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold,
a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming.
Receive him into the arms of your mercy,
into the blessed rest of everlasting peace,
and into the glorious company of the saints in light. **Amen.**

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep,
by the blood of the eternal covenant, make you complete in everything good so that you may do
God's will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in God's sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be
the glory forever and ever. **Amen.**

Alleluia, Christ is risen!

Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

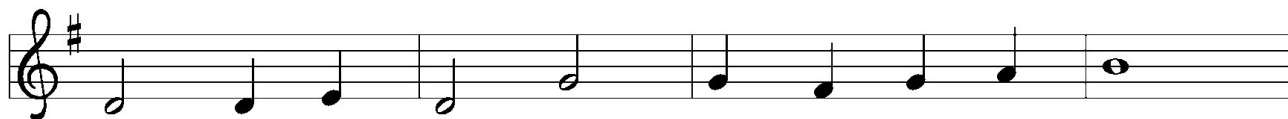
Let us go forth in peace,

in the name of Christ. Amen.

A procession may form and leave the sanctuary. The Casket will remain in the Narthex during the time of fellowship. Please stay and join us!

Hymn ELW 534

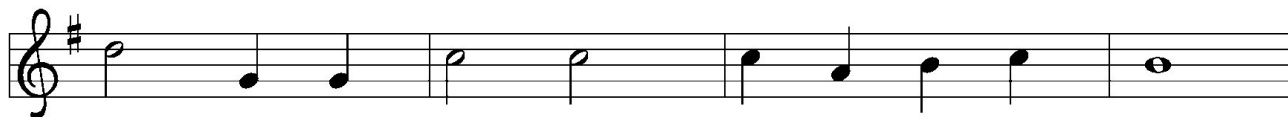
Savior, Again To Your Dear Name



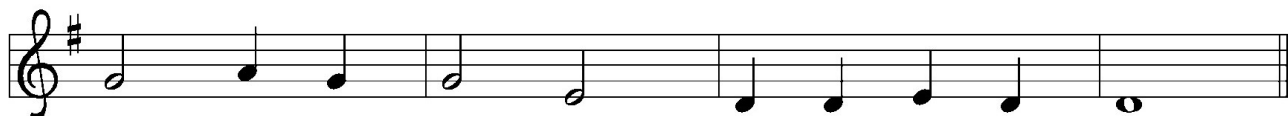
1 Sav - ior, a - gain to your dear name we raise
 2 Grant us your peace up - on our home - ward way;
 3 Grant us your peace, Lord, through the com - ing night;
 4 Grant us your peace through - out our earth - ly life,



with one ac - cord our part - ing hymn of praise;
 with you be - gan, with you shall end the day;
 for us trans - form its dark - ness in - to light.
 our balm in sor - row, and our stay in strife;



once more we bless you ere our wor - ship cease,
 guard all the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,
 Keep us from harm and dan - ger till the dawn;
 then, when your voice shall bid our con - flict cease,



then, low - ly bend - ing, wait your word of peace.
 that in this house have called up - on your name.
 your eve - ning pres - ence prom - ise to your own.
 call us, O Lord, to your e - ter - nal peace.

Text: John Ellerton, 1826–1893, alt.
 Music: ELLERS, Edward J. Hopkins, 1818–1901

Organ Postlude

Officiant: The Rev. Dr. Brad Brauer, Interim Pastor
Preacher: The Rev. Hal Nilsson
Reader: Chris Brandt
Guest Organist: John Garlisch
Sound: Andreas Hochstein
Sacristy Care: Karen Carlson, Dorthe Carr
Communion Assistants: Karen Carlson, Elaine Kovach
Ushers: Betty Ann Arner, Tom Berardinelli

Reception in Narthex: Diane Quarles, hostess

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