



## ORDER OF SERVICE

GREETING

SONG OF GATHERING: "It Is Well With My Soul" B377

INTRODUCTION

WORDS AND MEMORIES FROM FAITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS

RESPONSIVE OPENING:

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: We have come together to seek God's comfort in our sorrow and to rejoice in the promise of the resurrection. Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, who said, "Come to me, all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." Let us pray.

ALL: Lord Jesus, you wept at the grave of your friend Lazarus, and you consoled Mary and Martha in their distress. Draw near to us who mourn for Carolyn, and dry the tears of all who weep. Calm our troubled hearts, dispel our doubts and fears, and lead us to praise you for having brought Carolyn to faith. In your rising from the dead, you conquered death and opened the gates to eternal life. Strengthen us with your Word, and lead us through this earthly life until at last we are united with you and all the saints in glory everlasting. Amen.

## RESURRECTION COMFORT

P: Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God. The apostle Paul writes to the Romans: "The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." Jesus gives us this comfort: "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die." Death has been swallowed up in victory! Thanks be to God!

C: He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

P: When Christ, who is our life, appears.

C: Then we also will appear with him in glory.

P: We will be before the throne of God

C: And serve him day and night in his temple.

P: Never again will we hunger;

C: Never again will we thirst.

P: For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be our Shepherd; he will lead us to springs of living water.

C: And God will wipe away every tear from our eyes.

P: Let us pray:

ALL: God of all grace, you sent your Son Jesus to destroy the power of death and to open the kingdom of heaven to all believers. Make us certain that because he lives, we too shall live. Comfort us with your promise that neither death nor life nor things present nor things to come shall be able to separate us from your love which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

1ST SCRIPTURE LESSON: Psalm 23

1 The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing.  
2 He makes me lie down in green pastures,  
he leads me beside quiet waters,  
3 he refreshes my soul.  
He guides me along the right paths  
for his name's sake.  
4 Even though I walk  
through the darkest valley,  
I will fear no evil,  
for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff,  
they comfort me.  
5 You prepare a table before me  
in the presence of my enemies.  
You anoint my head with oil;  
my cup overflows.  
6 Surely your goodness and love will follow me  
all the days of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord  
forever.

CHOIR: "I'm Amazed"

2ND SCRIPTURE LESSON: Revelation 21:1-7

1 Then I saw "a new heaven and a new earth," for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. 2 I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them.

They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. 4 'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."

5 He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true."

6 He said to me: "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life. 7 Those who are victorious will inherit all this, and I will be their God and they will be my children.

HYMN: "What Wondrous Love Is This" R120

SERMON: John 14:1-6

"Jesus is Life"

1 "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God[a]; 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."

5 Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?"

6 Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

HYMN: "God Be With You Till We Meet Again" B634

## APOSTLES' CREED (please stand)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living.

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

## OFFERING

### RESPONSIVE PRAYERS

P: Almighty God, we praise you for the great company of saints who have finished their lives and now rest from their labors. We remember especially our love one Rodney, whom you have redeemed by the blood of your Son and received as your dear child through Holy Baptism. We thank you for giving him to us as a companion on our earthly pilgrimage. In your compassion, comfort all who are sad in this hour. Lord, in your mercy.

C: Hear our prayer

P: We praise you for your love in Christ, which sustains us in life and death. In our earthly sorrows, help us find the fellowship of the church, joy in the forgiveness of sins, and hope in the resurrection to eternal life. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: You do not leave us comfortless but strengthen and care for us through your Word and sacrament. You give us family, friends, and neighbors to help when there is loneliness now and in the days to come. Brighten our future with a firm trust in your promises and care. Lord, in your mercy

C: Hear our prayer.

P: Remove our fears and make us bold to pray with confidence as your dear children.

## ADDITIONAL PRAYERS

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

### BENEDICTION

M: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace. Amen.

CHOIR: "Every Praise"