

**A Service of Word and Praise for
The Homegoing of Dennis Dale Meyer
October 2, 2023**

Born July 26, 1951

Baptized August 22, 1951

Confirmed April 11, 1965

Received into Heaven September 26, 2023

Confirmation Verse – John 3:16

*For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son,
that whosoever believeth in him should not perish,
but have everlasting life.*

Opening Hymn

How Great Thou Art

LSB 801

1 O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works Thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed;

Refrain: Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee.
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!

2 When through the woods and forest glades I wander,
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze; [Refrain]

3 But when I think that God, His Son not sparing,
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in--
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin; [Refrain]

4 When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim: "My God, how great Thou art!"
[Refrain]

Invocation (*Congregation stands*)

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

C: Amen.

P: In Holy Baptism Dennis Dale Meyer was clothed with the robe of Christ's righteousness which covered all his sin. St. Paul says, "Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?"

C: We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of 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.

Kyrie

P: Lord, have mercy upon us.

C: Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy, Amen.

Psalm Reading

Psalm 46

1 God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.

2 Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way,
though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,
3 though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

4 There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.

5 God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved;
God will help her when morning dawns.

6 The nations rage, the kingdoms totter;
he utters his voice, the earth melts.

7 The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress.

8 Come, behold the works of the LORD,
how he has brought desolations on the earth.

9 He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
he breaks the bow and shatters the spear;
he burns the chariots with fire.

**10 “Be still, and know that I am God.
I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth!”**

**11 The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

P: Let us pray. O God of grace and mercy, we give thanks for Your loving-kindness shown to our brother in the faith and to all Your servants who, having finished their course in faith, now rest from their labors.

C: Grant that we also may be faithful unto death and receive the crown of eternal life, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

(Please sit)

Old Testament Reading

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8, 14

1 For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:

2 a time to be born, and a time to die;

a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;

3 a time to kill, and a time to heal;

a time to break down, and a time to build up;

4 a time to weep, and a time to laugh;

a time to mourn, and a time to dance;

5 a time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together;

a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;

6 a time to seek, and a time to lose;

a time to keep, and a time to cast away;

7 a time to tear, and a time to sew;

a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;

8 a time to love, and a time to hate;

a time for war, and a time for peace.

14 I perceived that whatever God does endures forever; nothing can be added to it, nor anything taken from it. God has done it, so that people fear before him.

P: This is the Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Epistle Reading

Revelation 7:9-17

9 After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, 10 and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" 11 And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, 12 saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

13 Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?" 14 I said to him, "Sir, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

15 "Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence.

16 They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat.

17 For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

P: This is the Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel

John 1:1-18 (*Please stand*)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 1st Chapter.

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. 4 In him was life, and the life was the light of men. 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

6 There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. 7 He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. 8 He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

9 The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. 10 He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. 11 He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. 12 But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, 13 who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. 15 (John bore witness about him, and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.") 16 For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. 17 For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. 18 No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

Apostles' Creed

P: God has made us His people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we join together and confess our faith.

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

And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

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 *(Please sit)*

Hymn *I Am Jesus Little Lamb* **LSB 801**

1 I am Jesus' little lamb,
Ever glad at heart I am;
For my Shepherd gently guides me,
Knows my need and well provides me,
Loves me ev'ry day the same,
Even calls me by my name.

2 Day by day, at home, away,
Jesus is my staff and stay.
When I hunger, Jesus feeds me,
Into pleasant pastures leads me;
When I thirst, He bids me go
Where the quiet waters flow.

3 Who so happy as I am,
Even now the Shepherd's lamb?
And when my short life is ended,
By His angel host attended,
He shall fold me to His breast,
There within His arms to rest.

Sermon

Hymn *Jesus Loves Me* **LSB 588**

1 Jesus loves me! This I
know,
For the Bible tells me so.

Little ones to Him belong:
They are weak, but He is
strong

Refrain:
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes,
Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The
Bible tells me so.

2 Jesus loves me! He who
died
Heaven's gates to open wide.
He has washed away my sin,
Lets His little child come in.
[Refrain]

Prayer of the Church (*Please stand*)

P: Let us pray.

P: Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to newness of life and that through the gate of death and the grave we may pass with Him to our joyful resurrection. **C: Hear us, O Lord.**

P: Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith, your Holy Spirit that He may lead us in holiness and righteousness all our days. **C: Hear us, O Lord.**

P: Grant to your faithful people pardon and peace that we may be cleansed from all our sins and serve you with a quiet mind.
C: Hear us, O Lord.

P: Grant to all who mourn a sure confidence in your loving care that, casting all their sorrows on You, they may know the consolation of Your love. **C: Hear us, O Lord.**

P: Give courage and faith to the bereaved that they may have strength to meet the days ahead in the assurance of a holy and certain hope, in the communion of your Church, and in the joyful expectation of eternal life with those they love who have departed in the faith.
C: Hear us, O Lord.

P: Help us, we pray, in the midst of things we cannot understand, to believe in and find comfort in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. **C: Hear us, O Lord.**

P: God of all grace, You sent Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to bring life and immortality to light. We give you thanks that by His death He destroyed the power of death and by His resurrection opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. Strengthen us in the confidence 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 which is in Christ Jesus our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C: Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer (*sing*)

Our Father,
Which art in heaven,
Hallowed be Thy name.
Thy Kingdom come,
They will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil,
For Thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory, forever.
Amen.

The Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.
C: Amen.

Reading of Obituary and Family Reflections

Closing Hymn

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

LSB 739

1 Precious Lord, take my hand,
Lead me on, let me stand;
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
Through the storm, through the night,

Lead me on to the light.
Take my hand, precious Lord; lead me home.

2 When my way grows drear,
Precious Lord, linger near,
When my life is almost gone,
Hear my cry, hear my call;
Hold my hand lest I fall.
Take my hand, precious Lord; lead me home.

3 When the darkness appears
And the night draws near
And the day is almost gone,
At the river I stand;
Guide my feet, hold my hand,
Take my hand, precious Lord; lead me home.

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Departure to Zion Lutheran Cemetery

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Order of Committal (At the gravesite.)

Hymn

Amazing Grace

LSB 744

1 Amazing grace--how sweet
the sound--
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am
found,
Was blind but now I see!

2 The Lord has promised good
to me,
His Word my hope secures;

He will my shield and portion
be
As long as life endures.

3 Through many dangers, toils,
and snares
I have already come;
His grace has brought me safe
thus far,
His grace will lead me home.

4 Yes, when this flesh and
heart shall fail
And mortal life shall cease,
Amazing grace shall then
prevail
In heaven's joy and peace.

5 When we've been there ten
thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing
God's praise
Than when we'd first begun.

Responsive Readings

P: Lord, you know the secrets of our hearts; shut not your ears to our prayers, but spare us, Lord most holy, O God most mighty, O holy and merciful Savior, O most worthy judge eternal. Do not let the pains of death turn us away from you at our last hour.

C: Open for me the gates of righteousness; I will enter and give thanks to the Lord. This is the gate of the Lord through which the righteous may enter. (Psalm 118:19-20)

P: I know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand upon the earth. And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God. (Job 19:25-26)

ALL: Jesus said, "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." (John 11:25-26)

P: Merciful Father and Lord of life, with whom live the spirits of those who depart in the faith, we thank you for the blessings of body and soul that you granted our brother, Denny, whose earthly remains we now lay to rest. Above all we rejoice at Your gracious promise to all Your servants, living and departed, that we shall rise again at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

P: Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed—in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. For the perishable must clothe itself with the

imperishable, and the mortal with immortality. When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true, “Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?” The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Corinthians 15:51-57)

P: We now commit this body to the ground; earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust, in the sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, who will change our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him to subdue all things to himself.

P: May God the Father, who created this body, may God the Son, who by His blood redeemed this body, may God the Holy Spirit, who by Holy Baptism sanctified this body to be His temple, keep these remains to the day of the resurrection of all flesh.

C: Amen.

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Organist:

Mrs. Eileen Stough

Preacher:

Rev. Dr. Carl E. Rockrohr

Pastor of Zion Lutheran Church, Ridgeville Corners, Ohio