



**The Order of Christian Burial
For
Gene Rupp
October 03, 2022**

**Born A Child of Man— August 27, 1931
Asleep In Jesus— September 27, 2022**

Anchored in Christ



**ST. PAUL'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**A Church of
The Lutheran Church—
Missouri Synod**

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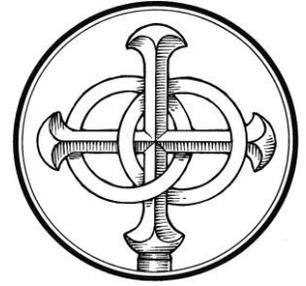
Joanna Kruzel-Administrative Secretary

Peggy Hilson – Accompanist

Geneal Roth- Vocalist

✠ A WORD ABOUT FUNERALS ✠

A funeral according to Meriam Webster is the "observances held for a dead person before burial or cremation." We might think of a funeral as a public way of dealing with grief. Grief according to John W. Santrock is, "The emotional numbness, disbelief, separation anxiety, despair, sadness, and loneliness that accompany the loss of someone we love." The funeral is meant to help people come to grips with the reality of grief and accept the reality of death.



Funerals are common in many cultures. Funeral observances in the Bible were far different from those which we are accustomed to in the United States. A common element among them was having an extended time of mourning. For example, when Moses died, "The Israelites grieved for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days, until the time of weeping and mourning was over." Another characteristic was to have a funeral procession where people wailed and the body was carried off to the grave. In fact, it was common to pay people to cry out aloud (professional mourners).

Loss brings pain and crying. Even Jesus cried when Lazarus died, "Jesus wept" (John 11:35). It is healthy to mourn the loss of a loved one. Telling stories about the good and bad times we have had with the person may help with grief. It is good to set time aside to talk about the person and to cry together as a group. It is good to remember the loved one through old photographs, videos, and stories. Such time will bring many tears to our eyes as we remember a person. It is healthy to get out and talk with fellow family and to cry together.

As Christians we need not ignore the grieving process or to pretend it does not exist. We should participate, but we have an opportunity to do something different, that no other group of people can do: to have a worship service during this time of grieving. A time to not focus on the person who has died but upon our God who has done something for the person that has died and for us who are still alive.

Paul writes in 1 Thessalonians 4:13, 18, "Brothers, we do not want you to be ignorant about those who fall asleep, or to grieve like the rest of men, who have no hope. . . . Therefore encourage each other with these words." These words describe what Paul would have us say at the time of death, namely encouraging one another with the words of that come from scripture concerning the resurrection, etc.

Indeed, funerals are a time for us to acknowledge the death of a loved one, but it is also a time for us to acknowledge and hear about the death of Jesus Christ. Why the death of Jesus? Answer; there is no other death like Jesus' death. Yes, Jesus' death brought death to death. Yes, through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we have God's solid answer that death's sting is finished and that there is life after death in Jesus; a resurrected life. Thus, funerals are a time where our grief is met by the comfort of God's forgiveness of sins and the promised resurrection through Christ.

[The congregation is asked to Stand and Sing the hymn as the family enters.]

Opening Hymn: "Jesus Loves Me"

LSB 588

Invocation

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

C Amen.

Remembrance of Baptism

P In Holy Baptism Gene was clothed with the robe of Christ's righteousness that covered all her 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.**

Psalm 23

P The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

C **He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters.**

P He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

C **Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

P You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

C **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

C **Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Kyrie

LSB 278

P Lord, have mercy upon us.

C **Christ, have mercy upon us.**
Lord, have mercy upon us.

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 Gene and to all Your servants who, having finished their course in faith, now rest from their labors. 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.

C Amen.

[The congregation is asked to be Seated.]

Special Music: "What a friend we have in Jesus"

Geneal Roth

First Reading

Psalms 121

P A reading from Psalms:

A Song of Ascents. I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth. He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber. Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade on your right hand. The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night. The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life. **The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore.**

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Psalms 27:1-4

P A reading from Psalms:

The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? When evildoers assail me to eat up my flesh, my adversaries, and foes, it is they who stumble and fall. Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war arise against me, yet I will be confident. One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: that I **may dwell in the house of the LORD** all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his temple.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

[The congregation is asked to Stand.]

P Alleluia, alleluia

Jesus Christ is the firstborn of the dead;

**G To Him be the glory and power forever,
Alleluia.**

Holy Gospel

John 14:1-6

P The Holy Gospel, according to St. John,

G Glory to You, O Lord.

“Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

P This is the Gospel of our Lord

G Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

LSB 279

P God has made us His people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith as expressed in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**G 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.

[The congregation is asked to be Seated.]

Hymn of the Day: "I'm But a Stranger Here (Heav'n Is My Home)" LSB 748

Sermon:

Rev. Dr. Matthew Richard

[The congregation is asked to Stand.]

Prayers of the Church

P Let us pray to the Lord, our God and Father, who raised Jesus from the dead.

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 so pass with Him through the gate of death and the grave to our joyful resurrection. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Give to the family of Gene and to all who mourn comfort in their grief and a sure confidence in Your loving care that, casting all their sorrow on You, they may know the consolation of Your love. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

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

C hear our prayer.

P Receive our thanks for Gene and for all the blessings You bestowed on her in this earthly life. Bring us at last to our heavenly home that with her we may see You face to face in the joys of paradise. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P O 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 He 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.

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 281

P "I am the resurrection and the life," says the Lord. "He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in Me will never die."

C **Lord, now 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 every 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 in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

P "I am the resurrection and the life," says the Lord. "He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in Me will never die."

Concluding Collect

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Lord God, our shepherd, You gather the lambs of Your flock into the arms of Your mercy and bring them home. Comfort us with the certain hope of the resurrection to everlasting life and a joyful reunion with those we love who have died in the faith; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus and Benediction

P Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

P Let us go forth in peace,

C **in the name of the Lord.**

☞ (Sing) Amen, Amen, Amen.

Mealtime Prayer

☞ Come, Lord Jesus.

Be our guest.

Let Thy gifts to us be blessed. Amen

**O Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good and
His mercy endures forever. Amen.**

The congregation is asked to remain standing and sing the closing hymn, as the family exits.

Closing Hymn: "I Am Jesus's Little Lamb"

LSB 740

Postlude

The family invites you for a meal in the Fellowship Hall following the service.