

Funeral Service
11:00 am, Saturday, July 20, 2024
Zion Lutheran Church
for
Harry Leroy Thomas
January 27, 1949—June 26, 2024

PRELUDE

GREETING

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

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.

OPENING HYMN

Blessed Assurance

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God, Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.
This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long;
This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight! Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
Angels descending bring from above Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.
This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long;
This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission—all is at rest, I in my Savior am happy and blest;
Watching and waiting, looking above, Filled with His goodness, lost in His love.
This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long;
This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long.

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray: O God of grace and glory, we remember before you today our brother, Harry. 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 your aid, so we may see in death the gate to eternal life, that we may continue our course on earth in confidence until, by your call, we are reunited with those who have gone before us; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

PSALM 23 (UNISON)

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He maketh me to 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 and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

JOB 19:23-27A

1 PETER 1:3-9

REMEMBRANCES

READING FROM THE HOLY GOSPEL

JOHN 14:1-7, 27

MEDITATION

HYMN

I Know that My Redeemer Lives

I know that my Redeemer lives;
What joy the blest assurance gives!
He lives, he lives who once was dead;
He lives my Everlasting Head!

He lives, to bless me with His love;
He lives to plead for me above;
He lives, my hungry soul to feed;
He lives to help in time of need.

He lives, and grants me daily breath;
He lives, and I shall conquer death;
He lives my mansions to prepare;
He lives to bring me safely there.

He lives, all glory to His Name;
He lives, my Savior, still the same;
What joy the blest assurance gives:
I know that my Redeemer lives!

APOSTLES' CREED

P God has made us his people through our baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.

PRAYERS

P Let us pray: Almighty God, you have knit your chosen people together in one communion, in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Give to your whole Church in heaven and on earth your light and your peace. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

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 grave and gate of death we may pass with Him to our joyful resurrection. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Grant to all who mourn 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 those who are bereaved, that they may have strength to meet the days ahead in the comfort of a holy and certain hope, and in the joyful expectation of eternal life with those they love. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Help us, we pray, 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. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Grant us grace to entrust Harry to your never-failing love which sustained him in this life. Receive him into the arms of your mercy, and remember him according to the favor you bear for your people. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P God of all grace, you sent your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to bring life and immortality to light. We give you thanks because by his death Jesus destroyed the power of death and by his resurrection has 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 shall 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.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P Blessed are you,

Lord of Heaven and earth.

In your mercy for our fallen world

you gave your only Son,

that all those who believe in him

should not perish,

but have eternal life.

We give thanks to you

for the salvation

you have prepared

for us through Jesus Christ.

Send now your Holy Spirit

into our hearts,

that we may receive our Lord

with a living faith

as he comes to us

in his holy supper.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P 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 in 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,

for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

P Let us pray together as our Savior has taught us:

C 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.

P This is the Lamb of God Who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are they who are called to his supper.

THE COMMUNION

All baptized Christians are welcome to the Table of the Lord. As Christians in the Lutheran tradition, we believe in the Real Presence of Christ in, with, and under the bread and wine/grape juice. Non-baptized persons are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing.

Communion participants are invited to come forward to receive the Body of Christ and consume it. Then take an empty cup from the tray and proceed to the assisting ministers to receive the Blood of Christ. The first pouring chalice contains wine; the second grape juice. After receiving the body and blood of Christ, please place the empty cup in the bowl provided and return to your pew.

For those who are not partaking of the sacrament during this service, you are invited to silently pray the following prayer, The Spiritual Communion:

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Blessed Sacrament.

I love You above all things,

and I desire to receive You in my soul.

Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,

come at least spiritually in my heart.

I embrace You as if you were already there,

and I unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You.

(Saint Alphonsus Liguori)

COMMUNION BLESSING

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P We give you thanks almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you, and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

COMMENDATION

P Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant, Harry.
Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your 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.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah,
Pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but Thou art mighty;
Hold me with thy pow'rful hand;
Bread of heaven, Bread of heaven,
Feed me till I want no more,
Feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain,
Whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
Lead me all my journey through;
Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer,
Be Thou still my strength and shield,
Be Thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
Bid my anxious fears subside;
Bear me thro' the swelling current,
Land me safe on Canaan's side;
Songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever give to Thee,
I will ever give to Thee. Amen.

DISMISSAL

P Let us go forth in peace.

C In the name of Christ. Amen.

POSTLUDE

Assisting With the Service

Presiding Minister: Rev. Dr. Karin Pejack
Pastor at Zion Lutheran Church LCMC, Harrisburg, PA

Lector & Remembrance: Todd Pejack

Pianist: Judy Atticks

Minister of Technology: Catherine Germann, Zion Lutheran Church

Assisting Minister: Eileen Marks

Please join us for a time of lunch and fellowship directly following the service in Fellowship Hall.

All Saints Sunday

We invite you to the 10:15am Worship Service of Word and Sacrament on All Saints Sunday at Zion Lutheran Church 15 S. 4th Street in Harrisburg, PA on November 3, 2024, when we recognize the members and friends of the church family who have died over the past year and now rest with the Lord.