

I

*am the
resurrection
and the
life*



TO THE GLORY OF JESUS CHRIST
THE RISEN LORD AND SAVIOR

*THE CELEBRATION OF
THE LIFE AND FAITH OF*

Samantha Elizabeth Holden

June 21, 1989 - February 20, 2024

and

Spencer Lewis Holden

February 23, 1993 - February 20, 2024

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOL
Winter Haven, Florida

The Rev. Charles T. Reich, Senior Pastor
The Rev. Brendon Moore, Associate Pastor
Mark Esser, Vicar

THE CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE AND FAITH OF
SPENCER AND SAMANTHA HOLDEN

March 16, 2024
10:30 AM

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

WELCOME

INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *Matthew 28:19*

C: **Amen.**

P: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the source of all mercy and the God of all consolation. He comforts us in all our sorrows so that we can comfort others in their sorrows with the consolation we ourselves have received from God.
2 Corinthians 1:3-4

C: **Thanks be to God.**

P: 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. *Romans 6:3-5*

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 loved ones, Spencer and Samantha. We thank You for giving them to us to know and to love as companions in our pilgrimage on earth. In Your boundless compassion, 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.**

(Please be seated)

PSALMODY: Psalm 23

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

C: He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: He leadeth me beside the still waters.

P: He restoreth my soul: He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

C: 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.

P: Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

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

All: 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.

THE SCRIPTURE READINGS

Ephesians 3:14-19

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

(Please rise)

HOLY GOSPEL

John 10:27-28

SONG

"Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)"

Amazing grace how sweet the sound That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost but now I'm found Was blind but now I see

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear The hour I first believed

Chorus

My chains are gone I've been set free My God my Savior has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy rains Unending love amazing grace

The Lord has promised good to me His word my hope secures
He will my shield and portion be As long as life endures. (*Chorus 2x*)

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow The sun forbear to shine
But God who called me here below Will be forever mine
Will be forever mine You are forever mine

(Please be seated)

THE EULOGIES

SONG

“Above All”

**Above all powers, above all kings, above all nature and all created things.
Above all wisdom and all the ways of man, You were here before the world began.**

**Above all kingdoms, above all thrones, above all wonders the world has ever known.
Above all wealth and treasures of the earth, There’s no way to measure what You’re worth.**

Chorus

**Crucified, laid behind the stone, You lived to die, rejected and alone.
Like a rose trampled on the ground, You took the fall and thought of me, above all.**

**Above all powers, above all kings, above all nature and all created things.
Above all wisdom and all the ways of man, You were here before the world began.**

**Above all kingdoms, above all thrones, above all wonders the world has ever known.
Above all wealth and treasures of the earth, There’s no way to measure what You’re worth.**

Chorus (2x)

THE WITNESS OF FAITH AND HOMILY

(Please rise)

APOSTLES’ CREED

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

THE PRAYERS AND 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

SONG OF VICTORY

“It Is Well (Though It All)”

Grander earth has quaked before Moved by the sound of His voice
Seas that are shaken and stirred Can be calmed and broken for my regard

Through it all through it all My eyes are on You Through it all through it all It is well
Through it all through it all My eyes are on You And it is well with me

Far be it from me to not believe Even when my eyes can't see
And this mountain that's in front of me Will be thrown into the midst of the sea

Through it all through it all My eyes are on You Through it all through it all It is well
Through it all through it all My eyes are on You And it is well with me

So let go my soul and trust in Him
The waves and wind still know His name *(Repeat)*
The waves and wind still know His name

It is well with my soul It is well with my soul
It is well with my soul
It is well it is well with my soul *(Repeat)*

Through it all through it all My eyes are on You Through it all through it all It is well
Through it all through it all My eyes are on You And it is well with me

COMMENDATION

P: Let us pray. Lord God, our shepherd, You gather the lambs of Your flock and sinners of Your own redeeming 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.

BENEDICTION (*Hebrews 13:20-21*)

P: May the God of peace—who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant—make you perfect in every good work to do His will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in His sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever.

C: Amen.

POSTLUDE “Lift High the Cross”

Guests are invited to Trinity Hall and the Patio to greet the family and enjoy one another’s fellowship in celebration of Samantha and Spencer.

PARTICIPANTS

Officiant	The Rev. Charles T. Reich Rev. Clayton Langley
Organist	Wynn Bonner
Eulogists	Trevor & Brittany Goodwin Max Hewett Paige & Ryan White
Ushers	Dr. Ken Rogers, Barry Walker Larry Walker, Roger Walker
Praise Band	Mariah Braddy, Wynn Bonner, Peter Carrerou Peggy Jo Griffin, Jay Nerove, Kimberly Sheerin

A Poem written by 15-year old Aislyn Kidney

Erin, Samantha's good friend at work, was raising young teenage daughters. Samantha and Spencer took an interest in these daughters, mentored them and were teaching Aislyn how to drive. As Spencer served as a positive male role model in their lives, they referred to him as "Papa Spence." Samantha was called "Mama Sammy."

*In a world of darkness, where shadows unfold,
There lies a heart, shimmering, a heart of gold.
A beacon of light, filled with love untold,
A treasure so rare, a beauty to behold.
This heart of gold, it knows no bounds,
It reaches out, spreading warmth around.
With kindness and compassion, it astounds,
Touching lives, in every corner, it is found. In times of despair, it offers a hand,
A gentle touch, to help others understand.
It holds the broken, helps them withstand,
The storms of life, with love so grand.
This heart of gold, it carries no greed,
It seeks no fortune, no selfish need.
Instead, it gives, with a generous deed,
Planting seeds of love, like a sacred creed. It forgives the flaws, the mistakes we make,
Embracing imperfections, for love's sake.
With empathy and understanding, it takes,
The wounded souls, and helps them awake.
This heart of gold, it shines so bright,
Guiding us through the darkest night.
A beacon of hope, a guiding light,
It leads us to love, with all its might.*

CREDITS

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