



# OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

*5000 W. Tidwell, Houston, TX 77091 • 713-290-9087 • [www.OSL.cc](http://www.OSL.cc)*

*Dr. Laurence White, Officiating • Jeff Armstrong, Organist*

*A Service of Thanksgiving  
Celebrating God's Gift of Eternal Life For*



*Norbert Robert Pietsch*

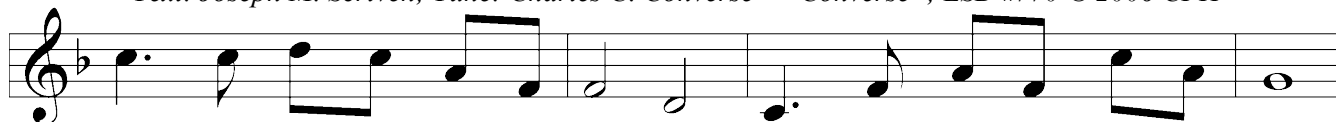
*September 22, 1929 - November 17, 2025*

*The death of a Christian has been transformed from tragedy into victory by the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. At the moment of physical death the soul of the believer is safe at home in heaven with their Lord. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that those who remain - for a time - here on earth, would gather to celebrate God's gift of life and savor the memories of blessings received through our beloved who now lives with Christ in heaven. We affirm the faith in which they lived and through which they have been given eternal life in the sanctuary where they received the forgiveness of sins in Word and sacrament. **"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of Compassion and the God of all comfort, 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."** (2 Corinthians 1:3-4)*

# *Processional Hymn*

## WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE IN JESUS

*Text: Joseph M. Scriven; Tune: Charles C. Converse – “Converse”; LSB #770 © 2006 CPH*



1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, All our sins and griefs to bear!  
2 Have we tri - als and temp-ta-tions? Is there trou-ble an - y-where?  
3 Are we weak and heav - y lad - en, Cum - bered with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry Ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!  
We should nev - er be dis-cour-aged— Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge— Take it to the Lord in prayer.



Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; Oh, what need-less pain we bear—  
Can we find a friend so faith - ful Who will all our sor-rows share?  
Do thy friends de-spise, for-sake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer.



All be - cause we do not car - ry Ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!  
Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak-ness—Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
In His arms He'll take and shield thee; Thou wilt find a sol-ace there.

Text and tune: Public domain

## *Invocation*

## *Opening Prayers*



## *Scripture Readings*

### PSALM 23

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 forever.

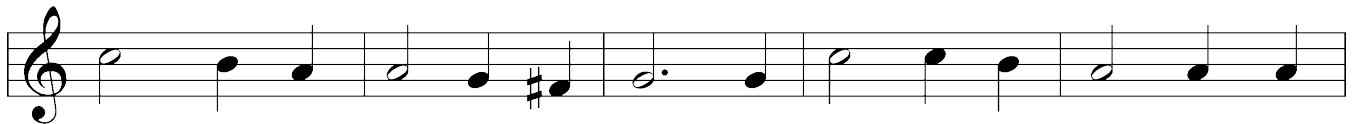
# Hymn

## WHEN PEACE, LIKE A RIVER

Text: Horatio G. Spafford; Tune: Philip P. Bliss – “It Is Well”; LSB #763 © 2006 CPH



1 When peace, like a riv - er, at - tend - eth my way; When  
2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, Let  
3 He lives— oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought; My  
4 And, Lord, haste the day when our faith shall be sight, The

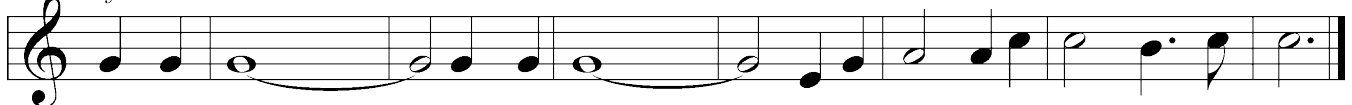


sor - rows, like sea bil - lows, roll; What - ev - er my lot, Thou hast  
this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, That Christ hath re - gard - ed my  
sin, not in part, but the whole, Is nailed to His cross, and I  
clouds be rolled back as a scroll, The trum - pet shall sound and the



taught me to say, It is well, it is well with my soul.  
help - less es - tate And hath shed His own blood for my soul.  
bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!  
Lord shall de - scend; E - ven so it is well with my soul.

### Refrain



It is well with my soul, It is well, it is well with my soul.

Text and tune: Public domain

## REVELATION 7:13–17

[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.”



## JOHN 10:1-18

[1] “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. [2] But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. [3] To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. [4] When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. [5] A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.” [6] This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. [7] So Jesus again said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. [8] All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. [9] I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. [10] The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly. [11] I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. [12] He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. [13] He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. [14] I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, [15] just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. [16] And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. [17] For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. [18] No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father.”

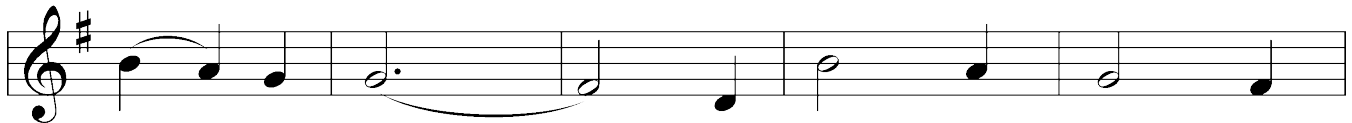
# Sermon Hymn

## THE LORD'S MY SHEPHERD, I'LL NOT WANT

*Text: The Psalms of David; Tune: William Gardiner – "Belmont"; LSB #710 © 2006 CPH*



1 The Lord's my shep - herd, I'll not want; He makes me  
2 My soul He doth re - store a - gain And me to  
3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, Yet will I  
4 My ta - ble Thou hast fur - nish - ed In pres - ence  
5 Good-ness and mer - cy all my life Shall sure - ly



down to lie In pas - tures green; He  
walk doth make With - in the paths of  
fear no ill; For Thou art with me,  
of my foes; My head Thou dost with  
fol - low me; And in God's house for -



lead - eth me The qui - et wa - ters by.  
righ - teous - ness, E'en for His own name's sake.  
and Thy rod And staff me com - fort still.  
oil a - noint, And my cup o - ver - flows.  
ev - er - more My dwell - ing place shall be.

Text and tune: Public domain

# Sermon



## *Obituary*

Norbert Robert Pietsch, age 96, of Montgomery, passed away after a brief illness on November 17<sup>th</sup>. He was born on September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1929, in Winchester, Texas to the late Robert Alvin Pietsch and Hulda Theresa (Tschatschula) Pietsch. He was baptized and confirmed in his faith at St. Michael's Lutheran Church in Winchester.

After completing his primary education, he helped his family with farming. He was inducted in the U.S. Army and served from March 5, 1951, until March 4, 1953 in the Military Police stateside, followed by the Army Reserves for five years. He met the love of his life, Ruth Reinhardt, in September 1954 at Ted's Sweet Shop (owned by Ted Reinhardt, Ruth's father) in Giddings, Texas. They were married on April 24<sup>th</sup>, 1955, and they were blessed with more than 70 years of marriage. They were also blessed with 3 children, Kenneth, Sheri and Curtis. Their family expanded with the addition of a daughter-in-law, Debbie Pietsch (wife to Kenneth), son-in-law Kari Toivonen (husband to Sheri) and two grandsons who were the apple of his eye, Grant Pietsch and Derek Pietsch (sons of Kenneth and Debbie). He was a dedicated and loving husband, father and grandfather (Papa) to his family. He was always willing to contribute his love, talent and skills to help his family, his church and his many long-time friends with anything that was needed.

Upon receiving his honorable discharge from the Army, he was employed by Pratka Electric in LaGrange to learn and work as an electrician's apprentice and he worked alongside his brother, Anton Pietsch. In 1955, television was the latest technology, and he decided that was very interesting and enrolled in Tyler Commercial College, then went on to Tyler Jr. College. In 1958, Norbert and Ruth moved to Houston for Norbert to accept a job with Howell TV Service at \$1.80/hour to use his new skills repairing TVs. After a few years, a dear fellow member of his church (Kirby Hackemack) suggested that Norbert apply for a position at SIE/Dresser where Kirby worked. Norbert took the suggestion and applied and got the job. He also decided to advance his studies through C.R.E.I, a mail order electronics school. Over time, SIE/Dresser later evolved into Oyo GeoSpace Technologies, a manufacturer of specialized electronic and seismic data acquisition equipment used in the oil and gas industry. Through the guidance of God, along with his lifelong love of learning and his dedicated work ethic, he became a Project Engineer with SIE/Dresser and Oyo GeoSpace where he worked on this specialized equipment all over the world on short-term and longer-term assignments for many years. He remained with Oyo GeoSpace until his retirement in 2000. Retirement provided him opportunities for spending time with his family, fishing with his grandsons, and enjoying time on the tractor at their beloved acreage gardening, raising cattle, and growing hay. Norbert and Ruth also traveled to many foreign and stateside destinations in retirement.



Norbert faithfully served his church, Our Savior and his previous congregations, Our Redeemer Lutheran Church and Bethlehem Lutheran Church. For many years as a younger person, he was a pitcher for Our Redeemer's softball team and he and catcher, Gary Hintz, were an accomplished duo. He was also active at various times in Voter's Assembly, served on the Board of Elders, participated in many fundraisers for the congregations and used his talents by helping to make repairs at their children's school, Lutheran Elementary North.

Norbert is survived by his wife, Ruth Pietsch, son Kenneth and wife Debbie Pietsch, daughter Sheri and husband, Kari Toivonen, son Curtis Pietsch, and grandsons, Grant Pietsch and Derek Pietsch, sister Leatrice (Lea) Haney, and sister-in-law Delores Pietsch, as well as numerous nieces and nephews and their families.

Including his parents, he was preceded in death by many of his siblings and their spouses: sister Mildred and husband Arthur Lehmann, sister Louise and husband Walter Lehmann, brother Anton and wife Irene Pietsch, sister Thelma and husband Martin (Mac) Zoch, brother-in-law Bill Haney, and brother Wilbert Pietsch.

The family will receive visitors on Sunday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> between 3PM - 6PM at Klein Funeral Home, 16131 Champion Forest Drive, Spring, TX 77379. A Funeral Service will be held Monday, November 24<sup>th</sup> at 11AM, with visitation an hour prior, at Our Savior Lutheran Church, 5000 W Tidwell Road, Houston, TX 77091, with Pastor Laurence White officiating. A luncheon will follow the service before interment at Giddings City Cemetery, 900 W Austin Street, Giddings, TX 78942, at approximately 3:30PM.

Serving as pallbearers are Grant Pietsch, Derek Pietsch, Glenn Zoch, Tim Pietsch, Wayne Zoch and Don Pietsch.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests that memorial contributions be made to the scholarship fund of Our Savior Lutheran School, 5000 W. Tidwell Rd., Houston, TX 77091.

## *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*

# Closing Hymn

## GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS

Text: Thomas O. Chisholm; Tune: William M. Runyan – “Faithfulness”; LSB #809 © 2006 CPH



1 Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther;  
2 Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest,  
3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,



There is no shad - ow of turn - ing with Thee.  
Sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove  
Thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide;



Thou chang - est not: Thy com - pas - sions, they fail not;  
Join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness  
Strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,



As Thou hast been, Thou for - ev - er wilt be.  
To Thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.  
Bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!



Great is Thy faith - ful - ness! Great is Thy faith - ful - ness!



Morn - ing by morn - ing new mer - cies I see;



All I have need - ed Thy hand hath pro - vid - ed;



Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me!

Text: Public domain; Tune: Public domain



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*Soli Deo Gloria*