

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

5000 W. Tidwell, Houston, TX 77091 • 713-290-9087 • www.OSL.cc

Dr. Laurence White, Officiating • Jeff Armstrong, Organist

COVER ILLUSTRATION – “I Am The First And the Last” by Dr. Rudolf Schäfer presents the awesome vision of our Lord Jesus as He revealed himself to the apostle John in the opening scene of the Book of Revelation. There Christ was standing amid the seven golden lamps which signified the church. Schäfer captures the essence of the vision as Christ upon the cross, shedding His precious blood to win forgiveness for the sins of mankind, dominates the entire image. Our Lord’s humble entrance into this world as the Babe of Bethlehem is shown in the left foreground. A joyful choir of angels proclaims the Christmas gospel above the stable and a gleaming star announces the Savior’s birth. In the right foreground stands the empty tomb with its resplendent guardian angel so that all might know that Jesus has conquered death for us. The beautiful life promise of the rainbow extends from the cross to the open door of the tomb. The risen Lord walks in the nearby garden behind the tomb awaiting the arrival of the women. The angels ascending from the empty tomb are carrying home the life harvest of God’s people. Over all is the extended hand of God the Father surrounded by the countless hosts of heaven, prophets and apostles, faithful men and women of God (including Martin Luther), those who have already received their share of God’s gracious gift of eternal life. Schäfer painted this masterpiece for the altar of the village church in Oberjesigen, Germany.

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



Thomas Patrick O'Neill

August 21, 1949 - 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

IN THE GARDEN

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



1. I come to the gar - den a - lone, While the
2. He speaks, and the sound of His voice Is so
3. I'd stay in the gar - den with Him Though the



dew is still on the ros - es; And the
sweet the birds hush their sing - ing, And the
night a - round me be fall - ing, But He



voice I hear, fall - ing on my ear, The Son of God dis -
mel - o - dy that He gave to me With - in my heart is
bids me go; through the voice of woe, His voice to me is



clos - es. And He walks with me, and He talks with me, And He
ring - ing.
call - ing.



tells me I am His own; And the joy we share as we



tar - ry there, None oth - er has ev - er known.

Invocation

Opening Prayers

Scripture Readings

PSALM 51

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!

For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight,
so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment.

Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me.

Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being, and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart.

Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have broken rejoice.

Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit.

Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you.

Deliver me from blood guiltiness, O God, O God of my salvation,
and my tongue will sing aloud of your righteousness.

O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.

For you will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it;
you will not be pleased with a burnt offering.

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

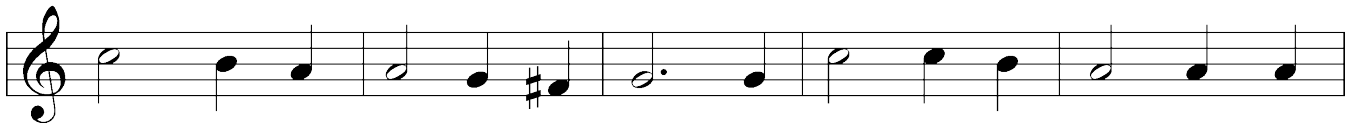
Hymn

WHEN PEACE, LIKE A RIVER

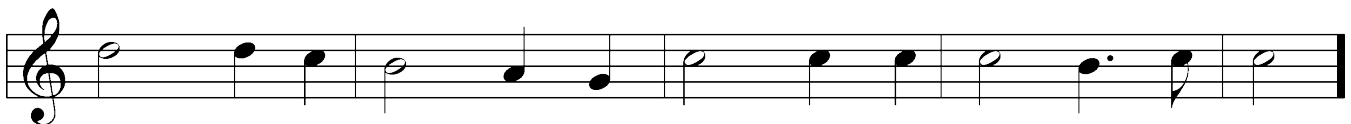
Text: Horatio G. Spafford; Tune: Philip P. Bliss – “It Is Well”; LSB #763 © 2006 CPH



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

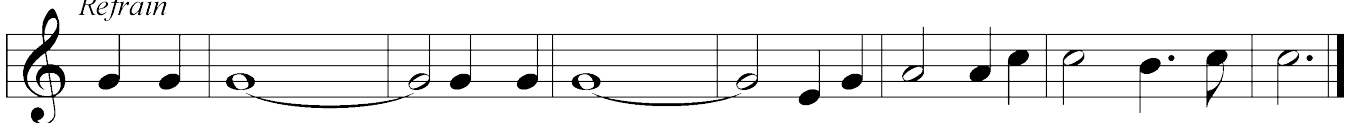


sor - rows, like sea bil - lows, roll; What - ev - er my lot, Thou hast
this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, That Christ hath re - gard - ed my
sin, not in part, but the whole, Is nailed to His cross, and I
clouds be rolled back as a scroll, The trum - pet shall sound and the



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



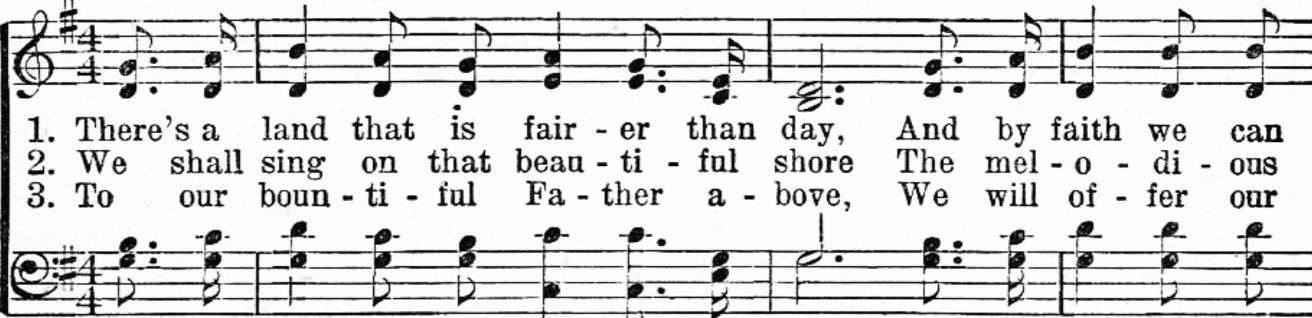
It is well with my soul, It is well, it is well with my soul.

1 CORINTHIANS 13

If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing. Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways. For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known. So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

IN THE SWEET BY AND BY

Text: S. F. Bennett; Tune: J. P. Webster

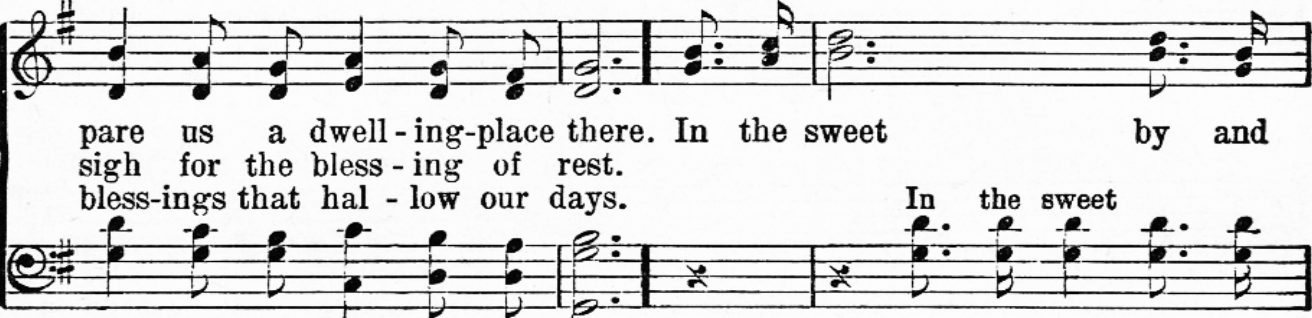


1. There's a land that is fair - er than day, And by faith we can
 2. We shall sing on that beau - ti - ful shore The mel - o - di - ous
 3. To our boun - ti - ful Fa - ther a - bove, We will of - fer our

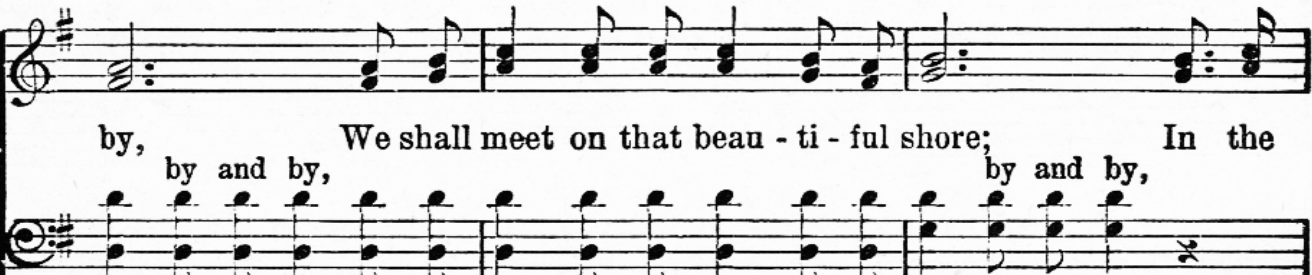


see it a - far; For the Fa - ther waits o - ver the way, To pre-
 songs of the blest, And our spir - its shall sor - row no more, Not a
 trib - ute of praise, For the glo - ri - ous gift of His love, And the

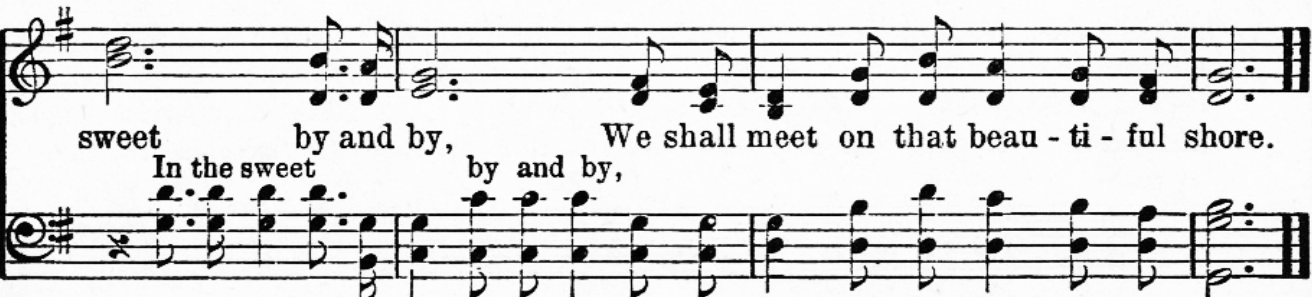
CHORUS



pare us a dwell - ing - place there. In the sweet by and
 sigh for the bless - ing of rest.
 bless - ings that hal - low our days. In the sweet



by, by and by, We shall meet on that beau - ti - ful shore; In the
 by and by, by and by,



sweet by and by, We shall meet on that beau - ti - ful shore.
 In the sweet by and by,

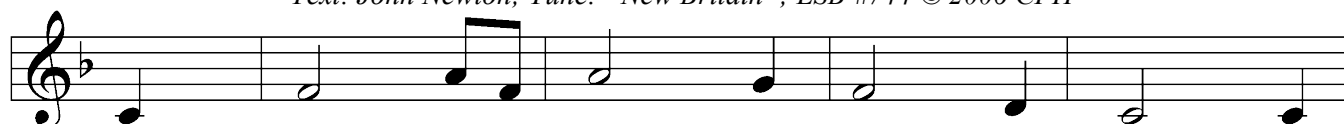
JOHN 14:1-6

“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.”

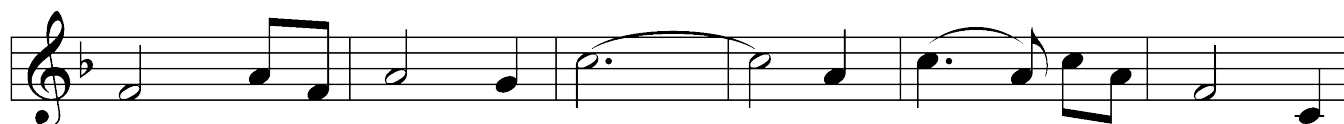
Sermon Hymn

AMAZING GRACE

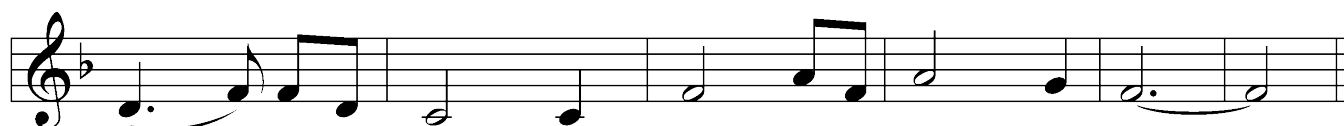
Text: John Newton; Tune: “New Britain”; LSB #744 © 2006 CPH



1 A - maz - ing grace— how sweet the sound— That
2 The Lord has prom - ised good to me, His
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
4 Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail And
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, Bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but
Word my hope se - cures; He will my shield and
have al - read - y come; His grace has brought me
mor - tal life shall cease, A - maz - ing grace shall
shin - ing as the sun, We've no less days to



now am found, Was blind but now I see!
por - tion be As long as life en - dures.
safe thus far, His grace will lead me home.
then pre - vail In heav - en's joy and peace.
sing God's praise Than when we'd first be - gun.

Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

PSALM 50:15

“Call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me.”

Obituary

Thomas Patrick O'Neill, age 76, of Houston, Texas, was called home to the Lord on November 17, 2025, after an intensive battle with lung cancer. He was born on August 21, 1949, in Houston, Texas, to the late Thomas Edward O'Neill and Charlene Phyllis Rhoden.

After graduating from Robert E. Lee High School, Thomas joined the U.S. Navy, serving from 1967 to 1973. He served in the Navy Seabees during the Vietnam War and earned the rank of Petty Officer Second Class. During his deployment, he served in Vietnam, Diego Garcia, and Guam. Thomas defended and served his country proudly; he received a Vietnam Service Medal and Presidential Unit Citation at the end of the war.

Once he left the Navy, Thomas returned to Houston. On December 2, 1978, he married Theresa Ramsay of Pryor, Oklahoma, at Inwood Forest Baptist Church in Houston, Texas. They were married for 47 years, and had three children: Michael, Robert, and Angela. Thomas was a devoted, selfless father and husband. As a father and husband, Thomas always prioritized his family, no matter the circumstances.

Throughout his life, Thomas had many passions. He loved spending time with his family, studying Texas History, and watching classic films. When he wasn't reading his Texas History books, he was gardening and taking care of his yard. Thomas knew endless facts about Texas; from the Texas Revolution to the history of roads in Houston, he could talk about Texas History for hours on end. Thomas greatly loved spending time with his grandchildren, attending their events, and taking them to historical places. Thomas loved to tell a great story, whether it was about Texas or the many anecdotes from his life growing up.

Thomas is survived by his wife Theresa; son Michael, son Robert (Ida), and daughter Angela; his grandchildren Michaela, Julietta, Alexandria, Matthew, Caleb, and Isaac; brother Mark, brother Kirk (Jonathan), and brother Tim (Karen); and nephew Mark Shannon (Marrissa) and nephew Douglas. Thomas is preceded in death by his parents Thomas and Charlene; sister-in-law Candyce; and niece Meghan.

Memorial service will be held on December 18, 2025, at 10:30 AM at Our Savior Lutheran Church, 5000 W Tidwell Rd, Houston, TX, 77091. Interment with military honors will be at Houston National Cemetery, 10410 Veterans Memorial Dr, Houston, TX 77038, on December 18, 2025 at 1:45 PM.



Prayers



The Lord's Prayer

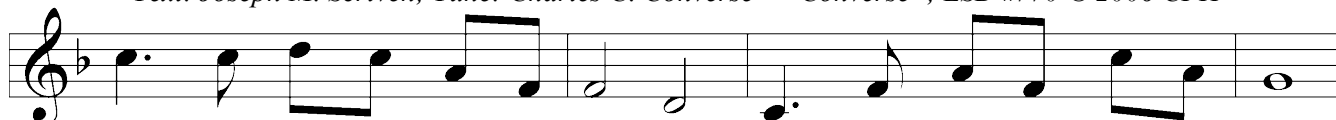
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Benediction

Closing Hymn

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

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Soli Deo Gloria