

**A SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING
FOR THE LIFE OF**

William T. Parker

OCTOBER 1, 1928 ~ NOVEMBER 2, 2023



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GATHERING

INTRODUCTION

The assembly stands and faces the entrance of the church.

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, Bill, to give thanks for his life, to commend him to our merciful redeemer, and to comfort one another in our grief.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

As a sign of being clothed with Christ in baptism, a pall is placed on the casket.

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.

Eternal God, maker of heaven and earth, who formed us from the dust of the earth, who by your breath gave us life, we glorify you.

We glorify you.

Jesus Christ, the resurrection and the life, who suffered death for all humanity, who rose from the grave to open the way to eternal life, we praise you.

We praise you.

Holy Spirit, author and giver of life, the comforter of all who sorrow, our sure confidence and everlasting hope, we worship you.

We worship you.

To you, O blessed Trinity, be glory and honor, forever and ever.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN: ELW #779 *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound*



1 A - maz - ing grace! — how sweet the sound — that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
 have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



now am found; was blind, but now I see.
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you today our brother, Bill. 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 faith to see that death has been swallowed up in the victory of our Lord Jesus Christ, so that we may live in confidence and hope until, by your call, we are gathered to our heavenly home in the company of all your saints; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

FAMILY REMEMBRANCES

The assembly is seated.

WORD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 43: 1-3a, 5-7

After the reading:

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 23 (read in unison)

¹The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.

²The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.

³You restore my soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

⁴Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 4: 6-10, 13-18

After the reading:

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.

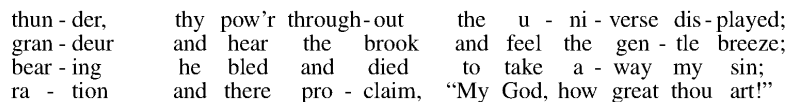
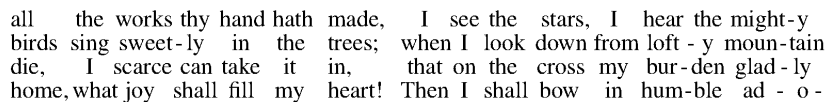
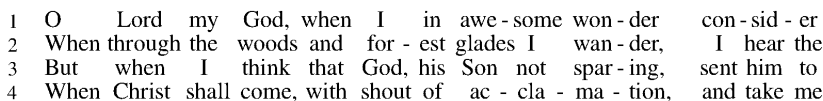
Glory to you, O Lord.

The Gospel of the Lord.

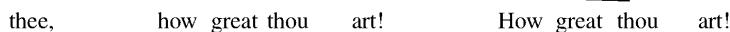
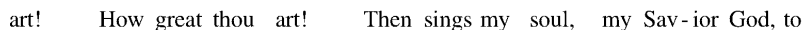
Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated. Time for reflection follows the sermon

The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.



Then sings my soul, my Sav-ior God, to thee, how great thou



APOSTLES' CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.

**Or, "he descended into hell," another translation of this text in widespread use.*

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Almighty God, in holy baptism you have knit your chosen people together into one communion of saints in the body of Christ. Give to your whole church in heaven and on earth your light and your peace. God of mercy,

hear our prayer.

Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to share the new life in Christ. God of mercy,

hear our prayer.

Give courage and faith to all who mourn, and a sure and certain hope in your loving care, that, casting all their sorrow on you, they may have strength for the days ahead. God of mercy,

hear our prayer.

Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith, that, where this world groans in grief and pain, your Holy Spirit may lead us to bear witness to your light and life. God of mercy,

hear our prayer.

Help us, 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. God of mercy,

hear our prayer

God of all grace, we give you thanks because by his death our Savior Jesus Christ destroyed the power of death and by his resurrection he 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, will be able to separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

*The people may greet one another with a handshake as a sign of Christ's peace and may say **Peace be with you** or similar words. When all have returned to their places, the assembly is seated as the altar is prepared. The assembly stands when invited by the presiding minister.*

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

TABLE PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

The Spirit makes us one, we pray as Jesus taught us:

**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.**

The assembly is seated.

COMMUNION

Holy Communion is the family meal of God's people, to which we come at Jesus' invitation. The body and blood of Christ, in the bread and wine, are his real presence with us and offer the gift of forgiveness because of his death and resurrection. Drawn together and strengthened by this meal, we are given a taste of the fullness of God's coming kingdom, and are equipped to be the hands and feet of God's love in the world. All baptized Christians are always welcome at the Lord's table.

DISTRIBUTION: When indicated by the ushers, come up the right-hand ramp to approach the altar rail. When finished you may leave individually without being dismissed. **WINE** is received either by Common Cup or from individual glasses in trays. For those requiring it for health reasons, **GRAPE JUICE** is dark and in the center of each tray. **USED GLASSES** are to be placed in the basket located near the ramp. **GLUTEN-FREE BREAD IS AVAILABLE**, please indicate to the server that you require this. Also, if you unable to come up to the altar, let an usher know so that pastor can bring communion to you.

When all have returned to their places, the presiding minister continues.

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

COMMENDATION

Let us commend Bill to the mercy of God, our maker and redeemer.

Silence is kept.

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

Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Let us go in peace,

In the name of Christ. Amen.

SENDING HYMN: ELW #543

Go, My Children, with My Blessing



- 1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless-ing, nev - er a - lone.
- 2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
- 3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour-ished, clos - er to me.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
 Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
 Grow in love and love by serv-ing, joy - ful and free.



In my love's bap-tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for-ev - er.
 Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.
 Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com-fort stilled you.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless-ing, you are my own."
 Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."
 Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour-ished, joy - ful and free."

A procession may form and leave the church, the ministers leading.

We continue to Angelcrest Cemetery for the committal.

William T. Parker

Bill was born October 1, 1928 in Tyrone, PA to the late Ralph and Carrie (Miller) Parker. A Veteran of the U.S. Air Force, William proudly served during the Korean Conflict. He was a P57 Mustang Pilot and trained the South Korean Pilots during the war. In April of 2023, William took an Honor Flight to Washington D.C. for his service. He made his career and retired as a national sales manager with Westvaco. William was a member of Christ Lutheran Church, Valparaiso, American Legion Post 94, VFW Post 988, and the Elks. He enjoyed golfing, time with family, and his companion dog, Gordon. His quick wit and love for others will be remembered by family and friends.

On June 7, 1953 in Tyrone, PA, William married Olga Angelo who preceded him in death on May 1, 2011. He is survived by his children, Judith (Peter Wood) Parker, Linda (Brad) Wood, and William (Annette) Parker II; grandchildren, Tyler (Brittany) Wood, Sarah (Matt) Giovannucci, Sophia Wood, and Hannah (Sam Ludlow) Eppley; and great grandchildren, Carson and Sienna Wood. He was also preceded in death by his dog, Gordon and siblings, Eugene and Jane.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are requested to [Wounded Warrior Project](#), [Folds of Honor](#), or [World Central Kitchen](#).

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

VALPARAISO, INDIANA

PASTOR TIMOTHY KNAUFF, JR.

PASTOR ERICA GIBSON-EVEN

BRIAN BARTUSCH, ORGANIST

READERS: Annette Parker and Hannah Eppley

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2023

11:00AM