

# **Celebration of Life in Christ**



**Robert Langford**

**July 18, 1936 – February 22, 2026**

# March 21, 2026

Visitation: 1 PM - 2 PM | Service: 2 PM

*Thank you for your presence today as we gather to celebrate Bob's life and the promise of continuing life in Christ. You are invited to participate fully. The order of service is printed below. Hymns not printed below are in the red **Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW)** book which can be found either in front of you or under your seat. Congregational spoken portions are in boldface type. An asterisk \* indicates times when you are invited to rise.*

## Gathering

Prelude

Welcome

### \*Thanksgiving for Baptism

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 God,  
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. **Amen.**

### \*Opening Hymn

*Just a Closer Walk With Thee*

*ELW 697*

### \*Greeting

The grace of our Savior 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

Let us pray.

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you today our sister, Annette.  
We thank you for giving her to us to know and to love  
as a companion in our pilgrimage on earth.

In your boundless compassion, console us who mourn.

Illumine our lives, 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. **Amen.**

# Word

## Reflections

David Langford, *Bob's son*  
Nick, Sam & Pete Hodnefield, *Bob's grandchildren*  
Douglas Snider, *Bob's grandchild*

## First Reading

Lamentations 3:25-26

God is good to those who wait for the Most High, to the soul that seeks the Holy One. It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of God.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

## Second Reading

Psalm 121

I will lift up my eyes to the hills—from where will my help come?  
My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.  
He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber  
He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.  
The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade at your night hand.  
The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.  
The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in  
From this time on and forevermore.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel

John 11:21-27

The holy gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O God.**

Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.' Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.' Martha said to him, 'I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life.[a] Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' She said to him, 'Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.'

This is the Good News. **Praise to you, O Christ!**

## Sermon

## Hymn

*Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound*

*ELW 779*

## Prayers of Intercession

At the conclusion of each petition, the pastor will say:

“God, in your mercy,” and the people will respond: “**Hear our prayer.**”

# Meal

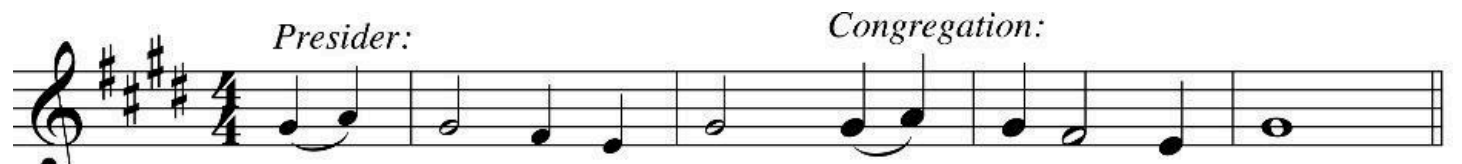
### \*Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

(The people greet each other: **Peace be with you.**)


### \*Great Thanksgiving

*Presider:* *Congregation:*




The Lord be with you. And al-so with you.

*Presider:* *Congregation:*




Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

*Presider:* *Congregation:*



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is



right to give God thanks and praise.



*It is indeed right, our duty and delight... their unending hymn:*

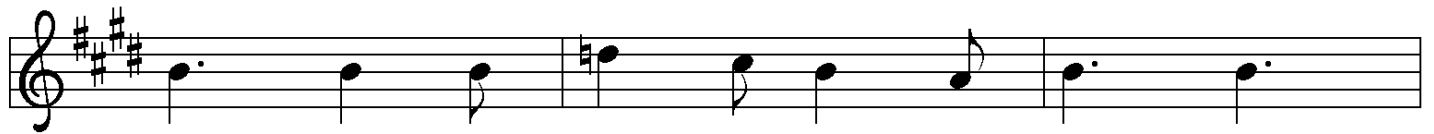
**\*Sanctus**



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and



might; heav - en and earth are filled with your



glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

**\*Eucharistic Proclamation and Prayer**

**\*The Prayer of Jesus**

With the people of God throughout the ages and with the saints surrounding us, let us pray with confidence.

**Our Mother, Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin  
against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen**

## Invitation to Communion

### Distribution

All are welcome at Christ's table. We will serve from the front. Ushers will guide you. After you have received bread, or a gluten free wafer, hold out your glass to the server and indicate whether you would like wine (the dark liquid), or grape juice (the light liquid in the second pitcher which has a shiny band attached to it). You are invited to eat and drink and then deposit your compostable cup with a server. Those who do not commune may indicate a preference for a blessing.

### *Peace is Flowing Like a River*



1, 4. Peace is flow-ing like a riv - er, flow - ing  
2. Love is flow-ing like a riv - er, flow - ing  
3. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le -



1, 4. out of you and me. \_\_\_\_\_ Flow - ing out in - to the  
2. out of you and me. \_\_\_\_\_ Flow - ing out in - to the  
3. lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -



1, 4. des - ert, set - ting all the cap - tives free. \_\_\_\_\_  
2. des - ert, set - ting all the cap - tives free. \_\_\_\_\_  
3. lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*Abide With Me*

*ELW 629*

*Precious Lord, Take My Hand*

*ELW 773*

### Blessing

### Prayer



# Sending

## \*Commendation

### *If We Live*

The musical notation is written on a treble clef staff in a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. There are three triplet markings over the notes 'wheth-er we die,' and 'So then, wheth-er we live or'.

If we live, we live to the Lord. If we  
die, we die to the Lord. So then, wheth-er we live or  
wheth-er we die, we are the Lord's.

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

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant, Bob.

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.**

## \*Blessing

God bless you and keep you,

God's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

God look upon you with favor and give you peace + now and forever. **Amen.**

## \*Closing Hymn

### *How Great Thou Art*

*ELW 856*

*All are invited to a reception in the Hospitality Center.*

# Serving in Worship

Clergy: Rev. Martha Schwehn Bardwell and Rev. Esther Sianipar

Readers: Nancy Hodnefield

Musicians: Kent Goodroad and Alyssa Schwitzer

Communion Servers: Dan Langford and Bruce Langford

Altar Guild: Sheryll Mennicke

Hospitality: Nancy Johnson, Gayle Lamb, Kristie Hennig and Paula Keller

Livestream: Jim Johnson



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